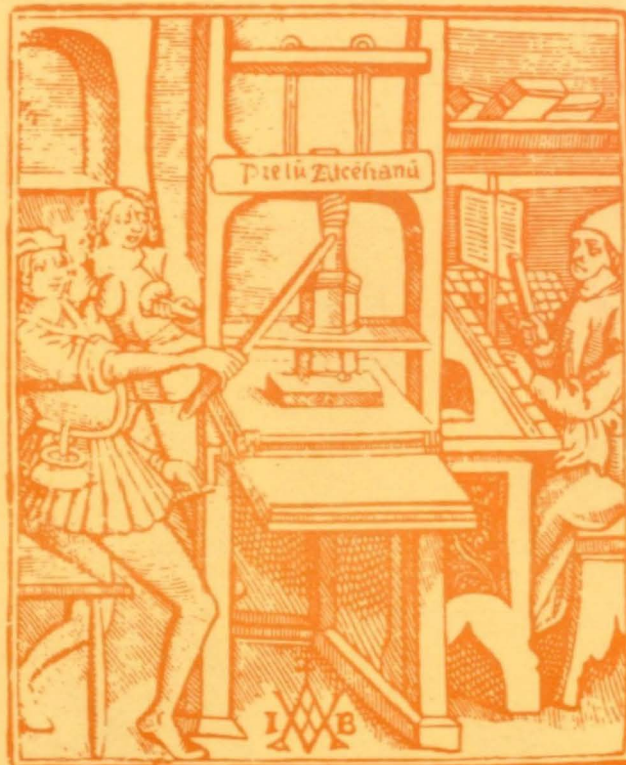






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Post Commander  
VFW Post 3564



# *History of Veterans of Foreign Wars*

*Edward H. Larsen Post*

*No. 802*

HAMMOND, INDIANA



Short Sketches of the V. F. W. National History

The Widows and Orphans Home at Eaton Rapids, Michigan

Veterans Administration Facility, Hines, Illinois

The Two World Wars

History of the Buddy Poppy

and Many Newspaper and Magazine Clippings

Compiled by  
John W. Blume  
Historian  
1944

The Charters of Larsen Post and Ladies Auxiliary

and Life Sketches of

Many of the Members of the Post

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## PREFACE

The Historian, John W. Blume, was appointed by the Post Commander, Werner P. Meissner, to compile the history of the Edward H. Larsen Post, Veterans Of Foreign Wars, of Hammond, Indiana, for the period of 1943-1944, this being known as volume number 2.

Rex L. Hidy of the Hammond Times is still co-operating with the Edward H. Larsen Post, furnishing the cuts of the Comrades who are serving on foreign soil or hostile waters for this edition at no cost to our organization. The Larsen Post again wishes to express their appreciation to Mr. Hidy and the Times for this fine service.

The members of the Larsen Post and the Ladies Auxiliary have contributed liberally in making this edition what it is.

Our Adjutant General R. B. Handy of National Head Quarters furnished us with the cuts of the National Home of Eaton Rapids, Michigan and also the cut used on the front cover of Foreign Service on the June 1943 issue. The Larsen Post wishes to express their appreciation for this fine service.

Keeler



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# *For Campaign Service Veterans*

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The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is a veteran fraternal organization composed of campaign service veterans exclusively. The V. F. W. is incorporated by Act of Congress.

Public No. 630, 74th Congress, Section 1, Incorporation: Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that \* \* \* members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, a national association of men who as soldiers, sailors and marines have served this Nation in wars, campaigns and expeditions on foreign soil or in hostile waters, and such national association, are hereby created and declared a body corporate, known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Section 5 of the V. F. W. Congressional

Charter provides: "That no person shall be a member of this Corporation unless he has served honorably as an officer or enlisted man in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States of America in any foreign war, insurrection, or expedition, which service shall be recognized as campaign medal service and governed by the authorization of the award of a campaign medal badge by the Government of the United States of America.

The V. F. W. National By-Laws (Section 102 — When War Exists), provides that "Whenever the Government of the United States of America recognizes that a state of war exists with any other government or governments, men in the military and naval service of the United States shall become eligible to active membership immediately upon arrival on hostile soil or in hostile waters."

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## *Aims and Objects of the V. F. W.*



"The objects of this Association are fraternal, patriotic, historical and educational; to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to assist worthy comrades; to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their widows and orphans; to maintain true allegiance to the

government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its constitution and laws; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies, whomsoever."



## WHY I BELONG TO THE V. F. W.

(Foreign Service, March, 1943)

Because the V.F.W. gives me the chance to help my fellow veterans in distress — and their loved ones. Every Post Service Officer who helps a disabled comrade is doing this work in my behalf.

Because the V.F.W. believes in practical patriotism. Financial aid for the disabled, the widows and orphans — not just sympathy.

Because the V.F.W. believes we can best honor the dead by helping the living. That means security for the disabled before we build monuments to those who no longer need our help.

Because the V.F.W. symbolizes brotherhood in action. Real comradeship with no hint of charity nor self-righteous generosity.

Because the V.F.W. maintains a National Home for the orphans of war veterans in Eaton Rapids, Michigan. My own kids may someday have need for this protection.

Because the V.F.W. gives me the companionship of veterans — young and old — who speak my language. No S.A.T.C. heroes, no 30 day soldiers, no yardbirds.

Because the V.F.W. is a fighting champion of the veteran cause. No surrender nor compromise with straddling politicians. For example, the World War Bonus victory.

Because the V.F.W. practices the principles of democracy which it preaches. No cliques, no king makers, no freedom of speech gag rules.

Because the V.F.W. is non-partisan and non-sectarian, in fact as well as in creed. No machine for ambitious politicians; no tolerance with intolerance.

Because the V.F.W. Cross of Malta emblem is an eloquent symbol of patriotic citizenship. It's my war decoration for overseas service.



# *Historical Sketch of Veterans of Foreign Wars*

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The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States resulted from the amalgamation of several societies formed immediately following the Spanish-American War. In 1899, small groups of veterans, returned from campaigning in Cuba and the Philippine Islands, founded local societies upon that spirit of comradeship known only to those who have faced the dangers of war side by side. Similar experiences and common language drew them together.

The American Veterans of Foreign Service was chartered by the State of Ohio on October 11, 1899. The Colorado Society, Army of the Philippines, was organized in Denver, Colorado, December 12, 1899. About the same time a society also known as the American Veterans of Foreign Service was born in Pennsylvania. These organizations developed, increasing in scope and membership until 1913, when at a convention held at Denver, they merged their interests and identities in a national organization known today as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

This new organization immediately took its place among other national societies of veterans. At the close of the World War, younger veterans returning from Europe joined by the thousands. The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States immediately became the second largest service men's organization in the country. It has posts in every state in the Union, in the Canal Zone, the Hawaiian Islands, Philippine Islands, Alaska, and elsewhere. Every member served in the United States Army, Navy or Marine Corps under actual campaign conditions.

The V.F.W. is an organization unique in its eligibility requirements. To join its ranks, a man must be able to produce an honorable discharge from the Army, Navy or Marine Corps, showing "service honest and faithful" in time of war in the theater of operation.

Those venerable men who served in the first Mexican War of 1846, and who survived from that far distant day until a few years ago, are among those whose names have occupied a place of distinction on V.F.W. rosters. Those who campaigned in Cuba with Roosevelt and Schley; in Porto Rico with Miles, and in the Philippine Islands with Dewey and Funston; who captured the walled city of China with Chaffee in suppressing the Boxer Uprising are also eligible to V.F.W. membership. The men who pacified the hostile Moros in later campaigns, and those who brought peace and security to those turbulent countries which rim the Caribbean Sea, are also to be found in the ranks of this organization. Today, the veterans of that mighty army that went "Over There" to break the Kaiser's stronghold upon civilization, compose the great majority of the membership of this unique organization.

In fact, because of the "evergreen" nature of the Gold Chevron Order, there are men within its ranks today whose eligibility was earned as late as 1933 in Nicaragua, in Yangtze campaign service in China, 1926-27 and 1930-32 or in Haiti in 1919-1920.

Why does the V.F.W. limit its membership to those who have served in our country's foreign wars and campaigns? Other organizations composed of ex-service men represent but one war or campaign. Being so limited the members pass on, and the organization becomes but a memory. The Veterans of Foreign Wars, having within its ranks today men who have served their country through more than 40 years of American campaigning, is destined to live as long as it is necessary for our country to defend its rights and maintain its integrity through force of arms. If ever the United States should again participate in war on foreign soil if and when this nation again becomes embroiled in hostilities on alien shores — the men who bear arms in those hostilities will be eligible for membership in the V.F.W. on the



same basis as its present membership is eligible. They are men who know what battle means. They are believers in preparedness to the end that the young American manhood of this or future generations shall not be sacrificed needlessly, should an emergency arise.

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## HISTORICAL DATA

### V. F. W.

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#### *Synopsis of Encampment Elections and Commanders In Chief*

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1. AMERICAN VETERANS OF FOREIGN SERVICE, organized as a National Body in Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 23, 1899. Chartered by the State of Ohio October 11, 1899. Elected J. C. Putnam as Commander-in-Chief.

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2. COLORADO SOCIETY ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES, organized at Denver, Colorado, November, 1899. General Irving Hale, Organizer. Became National Society ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES on August 13, 1900.

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3. PHILIPPINE WAR VETERANS, organized in Altoona, Pennsylvania, July 7, 1901. H. O. Kelly, Organizer. In July, 1902, reorganized with C. O. Knighton as President.

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4. PHILIPPINE WAR VETERANS, organized at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 13, 1901, G. H. Smith being elected Commander. On April 27, 1902, reorganized

as FOREIGN SERVICE VETERANS with Jacques La Belle as Commander. William A. Wein, Commander — May 26, 1903.

5. AMERICAN VETERANS OF THE PHILIPPINE AND CHINA WARS, organized at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 24, 1902, by Capt. Robert S. Hansbury.

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Nos. 3, 4 and 5 above met together September 10-12, 1903, at Altoona, Pennsylvania, and formed the AMERICAN VETERANS OF FOREIGN SERVICE. In September, 1905, the original AMERICAN VETERANS OF FOREIGN SERVICE, formed September 23, 1899, and this later one, formed September, 1903, united and formed a Society of the same name which in August, 1913, at Denver, united with the ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES under the temporary name of ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES, CUBA AND PORTO RICO, the name being changed during the year to VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

In November, 1913, several Posts in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, refusing to recognize the amalgamation in Denver during September preceding, met as AMERICAN VETERANS OF FOREIGN SERVICE and elected George F. Lumb as Commander. Other non-affiliated Posts, but which were ready to affiliate, elected Ben Nowell as Commander and he held the Posts in line until amalgamation could be effected.

In March, 1914, a few Posts from New Jersey and Pennsylvania met in Philadelphia under the guidance of Capt. Robert G. Woodside and formed a group called VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS with the specific understanding that they would unite with the amalgamated bodies at the earliest opportunity possible. This was accomplished in September at the Pittsburg Encampment. Capt. Robert G. Woodside was elected Commander of this temporary Society.



## CONVENTIONS AND ENCAMPMENTS

### *American Veterans of Foreign Service*

#### *J. C. Putnam, Organizer*

- 1899 James C. Putnam, Commander in Chief elected at Columbus, Ohio, September 23, 1899.
- 1900 Major Will S. White elected at Columbus, Ohio.
- 1901 Major Will S. White re-elected at Columbus, Ohio.
- 1902 James Romanis elected at Washington Courthouse, Ohio.
- 1903 James Romanis re-elected at Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 1904 James Romanis re-elected at Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 1905 George Metzger elected at Altoona, Pennsylvania.
- 1906 Charles H. Devereaux elected at Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 1907 David T. Nevin elected at Jamestown Exposition Grounds, Virginia.
- 1908 J. Alfred Judge elected at Lebanon, Pennsylvania.
- 1909 J. Alfred Judge re-elected at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- 1910 Robert G. Woodside elected at Jersey City, New Jersey.
- 1911 Robert G. Woodside re-elected at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 1912 Robert G. Woodside re-elected at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

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### *American Veterans of Foreign Service Eastern Branch*

#### *Robert S. Hansbury, Organizer*

- 1903 Capt. Robert S. Hansbury re-elected at Altoona, Pennsylvania.
- 1904 H. O. Kelley elected at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- 1905 Amalgamated as above.

*The Above Two Organizations Amalgamated  
September, 1905, at Altoona, Pennsylvania*

## ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES

- 1900 Francis V. Greene elected at Denver, Colorado.
- 1901 Irving Hale elected at Salt Lake City, Utah.
- 1902 General Irving Hale re-elected at Council Bluffs, Iowa.
- 1903 General Charles King elected at St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 1904 General Wilder S. Metcalf elected at St. Louis, Missouri.
- 1905 Col. Alfred S. Frost elected at Chicago, Illinois.
- 1906 General Arthur McArthur elected at Des Moines, Iowa.
- 1907 Capt. H. A. Crow elected at Kansas City, Missouri.
- 1908 Major P. J. H. Farrell elected at Galesburg, Illinois.
- 1909 Col. Charles L. Jewett elected at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- 1910 A. H. Anderson elected at Chicago, Illinois.
- 1911 F. Warner Karling elected at Detroit, Michigan.
- 1912 F. Warner Karling re-elected at Lincoln, Nebraska.

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The AMERICAN VETERANS OF FOREIGN SERVICE and THE ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES AMALGAMATED AT DENVER, COLORADO, AUGUST, 1913, forming the VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS as it is today. But, the birth of the Order dates from September 23, 1899, when the first national officers were elected and the eligibility clause was adopted. The original charter was granted October 11, 1899.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS formed by amalgamation of all of the above Societies.



Year	Commander-in-Chief	City	Dates
1913	Rice W. Means	Denver	Aug. 18-20
1914	Thomas Crago	Pittsburgh	Sept. 14-17
1915	Gus Hartung	Detroit	Aug. 16-19
1916	Albert Rabing	Chicago	Aug. 14-17
1917	William Ralston	New York	Aug. 27-30
1918	F. Warner Karling	Minneapolis	Aug. 12-15
1919	F. Warner Karling	Providence	Aug. 18-21
1920	Robert G. Woodside	Washington	Sept. 13-18
1921	Robert G. Woodside	Detroit	Sept. 19-24
1922	Tillinghast Huston	Seattle	Aug. 15-19
1923	Gen. Lloyd M. Brett	Norfolk	Aug. 27-31
1924	John H. Dunn	Atlantic City	Sept. 7-12
1925	Fred Stover	Tulsa, Okla.	Aug. 30-Sept. 4
1926	Theodore Stitt	Elpaso, Texas	Sept. 19-23
1927	Frank T. Strayer	Providence	Sept. 4-9
1928	Eugene P. Carver	Indianapolis	Aug. 26-Sept. 1
1929	Hezekiah N. Duff	St. Paul	Aug. 25-31
1930	Paul C. Wolman	Baltimore	Aug. 31-Sept. 5
1931	Darold D. DeCoe	Kansas City	Aug. 29-Sept. 4
1932	Robert E. Coontz	Sacramento	Aug. 28-Sept. 2
1933	James E. Van Zandt	Milwaukee	Aug. 27-Sept. 1
1934	James E. Van Zandt	Louisville	Sept. 30-Oct. 5
1935	James E. Van Zandt	New Orleans	Sept. 14-19
1936	Bernard W. Kearney	Denver	Sept. 13-18
1937	Scott P. Squyres	Buffalo	Aug. 29-Sept. 3
1938	Eugene I. VanAntwerp	Columbus, O.	Aug. 21-26
1939	Otis N. Brown	Boston	Aug. 27-Sept. 1
1940	Joseph C. Menendez	Los Angeles	Aug. 25-30
1941	Max Singer	Philadelphia	Aug. 24-29
1942	Robert T. Merrill	Cincinnati, O.	Aug. 30-Sept. 4
1943	Carl Schoeninger,	New York	Sept. 29-31

## YESTERDAY AND TODAY

(Foreign Service, March, 1943)

Down through the years since it was founded in 1899, the V.F.W., has won the admiration of the nation as a two-fisted, militant, progressive veteran fraternity devoted chiefly to two principal objectives — the national welfare and the welfare of the veteran and his dependents.

As a non-partisan, non-sectarian, war veteran association, the V.F.W. has blazed the trail for the enactment of every important piece of legislation adopted by Congress since 1899 for the benefit of those who have rendered military service in peacetime or in war.

As an organization strengthened by the experience of more than two score years, the V.F.W. is fully qualified, by heritage and tradition, to help solve the postwar problems of the men in military service in this war. Today the V.F.W. has already launched its fight in Congress for those benefits that will

guarantee security for the nation's disabled veterans of this war — and their dependents — and for every soldier, sailor or marine who returns to civilian life desirous of the opportunity for self-betterment to which every American citizen is entitled. We stand foursquare in support of every effort that will give our disabled younger comrades of this war the fair and just treatment they so richly deserve.

Contrary to the opinions of some, it is not too late to study ways and means that will give the able-bodied veterans of this war the assurance of good, steady jobs when they return to civilian life.

Many of the young men who are risking their lives to protect our country today remember the thousands of veterans of the last war who were forced to sell apples on street corners during the depression. We must never let this happen again in America and that's why the V.F.W. favors post-war planning against the repetition of such evil conditions.

With no deliberate intent to be cynical, countless thousands of veterans can testify to the fickleness of public adulation for the man in uniform when the bugles of war are stilled and danger no longer threatens. We learned from bitter experience that politicians are quick to forget their lavish wartime promises when they sense a switch in public sentiment — and a new voting trend. Unless we can act vigorously today in support of such post-war planning we are again apt to witness the birth of a new "National Economy League," composed of profit hungry citizens who prefer income tax reductions to legislative measures which promise justice for the man who has rendered valiant and honorable service to his home-land in time of war.





## Edward H. Larsen

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Edward H. Larsen was born in Chicago, May 16th, 1899. He attended the All Saints Parochial school in Hammond, Indiana.



EDWARD H. LARSEN

On April 12th, 1917, Edward enlisted in the Coast Guard Artillery Corps. Later he volunteered in the 12th Field Artillery Corps, Battery C, Second Division.

He received his training at Fort Meyer, in Virginia, and he arrived in France in January, 1918. His division immediately went into the front lines and took part in all the major engagements.

In the battle of Chateau Thierry, Edward was gassed and due to exposure he became ill and was taken to the field hospital, where he passed away October 16th, 1918. On November 11th, 1918, Armistice Day, his family learned of his death through a letter from an army Chaplain who was with him at his death. About eighteen months later, his body was returned to his home for burial. He had a military funeral, and his buddies who served with him in France were selected as pall bearers. He was laid to rest in Mount Olivet Cemetery at 111th and California Ave. in Chicago, Illinois.

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## History of Larsen Family

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Mr. Peter M. Larsen, a native of Denmark, was born May 18th, 1863. He is still hale and hearty, and enjoying life. His wife, Katherine



MR. AND MRS. PETER LARSEN

Larsen, was a native of Ireland and was born November 2nd, 1864. They were married in Chicago in 1888, and to this union were born six children.

John J., a World War Veteran; Anne L. (deceased 1920); Kathryn M., Jane E., Peter D. and Edward H. Larsen for whom this Post was named.

The children were all born in Chicago. The family moved to Hammond in 1906. Mr. Peter M. Larsen, the father, was connected with the Monon railroad in South Hammond for many years. His wife, Mrs. Larsen, passed away March 21st, 1933. She was a charter member of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Edward H. Larsen Post No. 802 and was accorded full military honors at the funeral. Kathryn and Jane are also charter members of the Ladies' Auxiliary. The family residence is at the present time at 6136 Garfield Ave., in Hammond, Indiana.

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# CHARTER

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## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

By Authority of the  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

*Be It Known, That Comrades*

Herman E. Granger	Milton L. Hansen
Charles A. Van Valkenburg	George Koontz
Harry C. Miller	Albert Olander
John L. Guse	Mac M. McClure
Erick Lund	Harold W. Hammond
Frank W. O'Donnell	Edward N. Maginot
Earl R. Snyder	Carl Haehnel
Sherm G. Stoll	Vergil Groat
Arthur G. Rothman	William T. Johnson
Charles J. Niemiec	Frank C. Young
Edward K. Lipinski	H. Glenn Dycus
George F. Lipinski	Glenn C. Carey
Ed Palmateer	Walter E. Meyn
Leo Charles Arkin	Charles B. McCarthy
Charles B. Buschele	Austin P. Koval
Louis Schrieber	Floyd Conway
Edward E. Howard	Thomas S. Nelson
Earl K. Cone	Edward B. Blair
George M. Van Valkenburg	Joseph L. Hirsch
Charles W. George	Cecil Hartelrode
Emil A. Guse	Orval J. Privo
Thomas P. O'Donnell	E. J. Beckman
Arnold Kunert	Louis B. Barton
Charles G. Kingwill	Arthur Shadley
William Guss	Valentine A. Kohl

having served honorably in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States of America in Foreign Wars of the United States of America, are hereby authorized to organize and are constituted a Post in the City of Hammond in the State of Indiana, to be known as EDWARD H. LARSEN POST No. 802, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

In witness whereof, we have hereto set our hands and the official seal of the Association this 22nd day of July, 1921.

RENEL W. ELTON,  
*Adjutant General.*

ROBERT G. WOODSIDE,  
*Commander-in-Chief.*



# CHARTER

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## LADIES' AUXILIARY OF THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

*Be It Known That*

Catherine Larsen  
Emma Paul  
Alice Lightcap  
Tillie Dugan  
Flora Klaubo  
Jane Larsen  
Kathryn M. Larsen  
Katie Buettner  
Mary F. Lipscomb  
Gertrude Mickow  
Catherine James  
Emma Martin  
Lodema Kubiak  
Ester Lightcap  
Regina Stoll

Blanche Jolley  
Ethyl Feibelkorn  
Ada Kohl  
Beatrice Lightcap  
Emma Mickow  
Anna Mulvey  
Clara Jackson  
Gertrude M. Kohl  
Julia Pagett  
Pauline Klamm  
Inez Schultz  
Edith Buettner  
Margaret Knapp  
Mae Lezczynski  
Louise Mickow

being the mothers, wives, sisters and daughters of the men of the United States Army, Navy or Marine Corps, whose service created eligibles for the VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES, and United States Army Nurses who had overseas service, are hereby authorized to organize and are constituted an auxiliary, to be known as EDWARD H. LARSEN AUXILIARY of Post No. 802, stationed at Hammond, Indiana.

In witness whereof we have hereto set our hands and seals this 19th day of September, 1930.

ADA E. HARRISON,  
*President.*

GRACE H. DAVIS,  
*Secretary.*



# Chronology of Edward H. Larsen Post

Herman E. Granger, First Commander, and Sherm G. Stoll, Second Commander, of Edward H. Larsen Post, No. 802, Hammond, Indiana year 1921.

Temporary officers to hold office until the post was duly instituted.

Commander	Herman E. Granger
Sr. Vice Com'r	Arthur G. Rothman
Jr. Vice Com'r	G. M. Van Valkenburg
Adjutant	Earl K. Kone
Quartermaster	Walter E. Meyn
Chaplain	Harry C. Miller
Officer of the day	David M. Dillon
Bugler	Henry Olson
Trustee	Charles W. George
Trustee	Charles A. Van Valkenburg
Trustee	Glenn E. Carey
Color Bearer	Eric Lund
Color Bearer	Harry Beatty

The second meeting of the Post held on July 22nd, it was decided to name the Post the Edward H. Larsen Post, he being the first to lose his life in the World War from Hammond, Indiana.

Sherm G. Stoll was the first permanent Commander of the Larsen Post.

The following permanent officers were installed on September 20th, 1921.

Commander	Sherm G. Stoll
Sr. Vice Com'r	Harry C. Miller
Jr. Vice Com'r	Floyd Conaway
Quartermaster	Walter E. Meyn
Chaplain	Earl K. Kone
Officer of the Day	George Lipinski
Trustee	O. J. Prevo
Trustee	Earl R. Snyder

Trustee ..... Herman E. Granger

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1922

## OFFICERS

Commander	Harry C. Miller
Sr. Vice Com'r	Floyd Conaway
Jr. Vice Com'r	Edward B. Blair
Chaplain	Earl K. Kone
Quartermaster	Isadore Levin
Officer of the Day	Virgil Groat
Trustee	T. P. O'Donnell

1923

## OFFICERS

Commander	Edward B. Blair
Sr. Vice Com'r	Mac M. McClure
Jr. Vice Com'r	Robert W. Elder
Chaplain	George L. Koontz
Q. M. and Adjutant	Harry C. Miller

1924

## OFFICERS

Commander	Mac M. McClure
Sr. Vice Com'r	Robert W. Elder
Jr. Vice Com'r	Chester C. Reed
Quartermaster	Charles G. Kingwill
Chaplain	George L. Koontz
Officer of the Day	George H. Mickow
Adjutant	Harry C. Miller
Patriotic Instructor	Clarence L. Lightcap
Publicity Officer	Charles G. Kingwill
Guard	T. P. O'Donnell
Sentinel	Frank O'Donnell
Color Bearer	William Buettner
Color Bearer	A. Weis



1925

OFFICERS

Commander	Mac M. McClure
Sr. Vice Com'r	Robert W. Elder
Jr. Vice Com'r	Chester C. Reed
Quartermaster	Charles G. Kingwill
Chaplain	Earl R. Barnes
Post Advocate	Herman E. Granger
Officer of the Day	Louis Peterek
Sentinel	Anthony Weiss
Color Bearer	William Buettner
Color Bearer	Walter E. Kubiak
Sergeant Major	Clarence R. Lightcap
Trustee	Charles J. Niemiec
Trustee	Edward N. Maginot
Trustee	Edward B. Blair
Adjutant	Clarence R. Lightcap

1926

OFFICERS

Commander	Chester C. Reed
Sr. Vice Com'r	A. J. Weiss
Jr. Vice Com'r	Earl R. Barnes
Quartermaster	Charles G. Kingwill
Chaplain	George H. Mickow
Officer of the Day	Walter E. Kubiak
Adjutant	Sherm G. Stoll
Guard	George L. Koontz
Trustees	Mac M. McClure
Trustee	Charles J. Niemiec
Surgeon	Roy Mills

1927

OFFICERS

Commander	George S. Hopper
Sr. Vice Com'r	Edward H. Richardson
Jr. Vice Com'r	Clifford Huston
Chaplain	Earl R. Barnes
Quartermaster	Charles G. Kingwill
Officer of the Day	Clarence Lightcap
Color Bearer	Francis P. Dugan
Color Bearer	Sherm G. Stoll
Sentinel	Tom O'Donnell
Guard	Walter E. Kubiak
Sergeant Major	Mac M. McClure
Trustee	Charles J. Niemiec

Trustee	Mac M. McClure
Trustee	Chester C. Reed
Patriotic Instructor	Joe Russell (honorary member)
Adjutant	Chester C. Reed

1928

OFFICERS

Commander	Adolph Starr
Sr. Vice Com'r	Edward H. Richardson
Jr. Vice Com'r	Earl R. Barnes
Quartermaster	Charles G. Kingwill
Officer of the Day	John Shelton
Adjutant	George H. Jolly
Senior Color Bearer	Frances Dugan
Junior Color Bearer	Charles Klaubo
Guard	Edward L. Hyde
Sentinel	Walter Kubiak
Patriotic Instructor	Joe Russell
Post Historian	Mac M. McClure
Sergeant Major and Bugler	G. H. Brown
Quartermaster Sergeant	Chas. E. Woodhull
Trustee	George E. Van Valkenburg

1929

OFFICERS

Commander	Lightel L. Whitaker
Sr. Vice Com'r	Drew A. Emerson
Jr. Vice Com'r	Charles J. Gordon
Chaplain	George H. Jolley
Quartermaster	Francis P. Duggan
Adjutant	Jack Weis
Officer of the Day	Walter Klammm
Senior Color Bearer	Charles Klaubo
Junior Color Bearer	T. Weis
Guard	Walter Kubiak
Sentinel	Walter Cyrus
Post Historian	George L. Koontz
Patriotic Instructor	Joe Russell
Sgt. Major and Bugler	Geo. T. Withington
Quartermaster Sergeant	Evert E. Reginer
Trustee	Isadore Levin
Trustee	George Van Valkenburg
Trustee	Thomas H. Hale



1930

OFFICERS

Commander	Lightel L. Whitaker
Sr. Vice Com'r	Drew A. Emerson
Jr. Vice Com'r	Charles J. Gordon
Chaplain	George H. Jolley
Quartermaster	Francis P. Dugan
Officer of the Day	Walter Klamm
Adjutant	Jack Weis
Trustee	Isadore Levin
Trustee	George Van Valkenburg
Trustee	Thomas H. Hale
Senior Color Bearer	Charles Klaubo
Senior Color Bearer	T. Weis
Guard	Edward L. Hyde
Sentinel	Walter Kubiak
Post Historitan	George L. Koontz
Patriotic Instructor	Joe Russell
Sgt. Major and Bugler	Geo. T. Withington
Quartermaster Sergeant	Evert E. Reginer

1930 - 1931

OFFICERS

Commander	Charles A. Klaubo
Sr. Vice Com'r	George L. Schultz
Jr. Vice Com'r	Eugene Reginer
Chaplain	Lightel L. Whitaker
Adjutant	Marvin Lightcap
Quartermaster	Francis P. Dugan
Officer of the Day	Walter E. Kubiak
Trustee	Sherm G. Stoll
Trustee	Lightel L. Whitaker
Trustee	Walter Klamm

LADIES' AUXILIARY

President	Emma Paul
Sr. Vice President	Julia Pagett
Jr. Vice President	Tillie Dugan
Chaplain	Inez Schultz
Treasurer	Flora Klaubo
Conductress	Lodema Kubiak
Guard	Jane Larsen
Secretary	Regina Stoll
Trustee	Kathryn Larsen
Trustee	Gertrude Mickow
Trustee	Pauline Klamm

1931 - 1932

OFFICERS

Commander	Francis P. Dugan
Sr. Vice Com'r	Curtis Bundy
Jr. Vice Com'r	William Guss
Chaplain	Loyal E. Branstetter
Quartermaster	Frank Tripinski
Adjutant	George F. Lipinski
Officer of the Day	Walter E. Kubiak
Sentinel	Leslie C. Hallman
Guard	Edward L. Hyde
Trustee	Sherm G. Stoll
Trustee	Lightel L. Whitaker
Trustee	Walter Klamm

LADIES' AUXILIARY

President	Tillie Dugan
Sr. Vice President	Anna Schmitz
Jr. Vice President	Florence Kohl
Chaplain	Inez Schultz
Treasurer	Flora Klaubo
Guard	Tillie Dunham
Secretary	Beatrice Lightcap
Patriotic Instructor	Margaret Knapp
Historian	Opal L. Branstetter
Conductress	Lydia Guss
Trustees	Gertrude Mickow
Trustee	Pauline Klamm
Trustee	Leona Weis

1932 - 1933

OFFICERS

Commander	Curtis Bundy
Sr. Vice Com'r	Jay W. Plopper
Jr. Vice Com'r	Henry E. Eads
Chaplain	Emil LaPlant
Adjutant	Marvin Lightcap
Quartermaster	James Holmes
Officer of the Day	Eugene V. Reginer
Trustee	Francis P. Dugan
Trustee	Frank J. Dunham
Trustee	Edward M. Pinney



# LADIES' AUXILIARY

President	Bee Lightcap
Sr. Vice President	Gertrude Mickow
Jr. Vice President	Florence Kohl
Chaplain	Inez Schultz
Secretary	Ruth Fiedler
Treasurer	Nellie Bundy
Guard	Dora Tanner
Patriotic Instructor	Tillie Dunham
Historian	Emma Ramsey
Trustee	Flora Klaubo
Trustee	Mary Dugan
Trustee	Leona Weis
Color Bearer	Frany Morenz
Color Bearer	Gunda Lindstrom
Color Bearer	Pauline Klamm
Color Bearer	Emma Palmateer
Conductress	Leona Weis
Musician	Mary Dugan

1933 - 1934

## OFFICERS

Commander	Henry E. Eads
Sr. Vice Com'r	James A. Worth
Jr. Vice Com'r	John McDonald
Chaplain	Walter E. Kubiak
Adjutant	Jack Weis
Quartermaster	Curtis Bunde
Officer of the Day	Elmer Clyne
Trustee	Charles A. Klaubo
Trustee	Frank J. Dunham
Trustee	Francis P. Dugan

## LADIES' AUXILIARY

President	Ruth Fiedler
Sr. Vice President	Mayme Plopper
Jr. Vice President	Frany Morenz
Chaplain	Inez Schultz
Treasurer	Nellie Bundy
Conductress	Tillie Dunham
Guard	Tillie Dugan
Secretary	Estelle LaPlante
Patriotic Instructor	Margaret Knapp
Trustee	Emma Ramsey
Trustee	Estelle LaPlante
Trustee	Leona Weis
Color Bearer	Emma Palmateer
Color Bearer	Florence Kohl
Color Bearer	Kathryn Larsen
Color Bearer	Gunda Lindstrom
Musician	Mabel Clyne

1934 - 1935

## OFFICERS

Commander	Charles A. Klaubo
Sr. Vice Com'r	Owen C. Knerr
Jr. Vice Com'r	Edward M. Pinney
Chaplain	Harry Bouldin
Adjutant	John F. Weis
Quartermaster	Curtis Bundy
Trustee	Henry E. Eads
Trustee	Otto Steen
Trustees	Elmer Clyne

## LADIES' AUXILIARY

President	Leona Weis
Sr. Vice President	Ester Knerr
Jr. Vice President	Blanche Jolly
Chaplain	Inez Schultz
Treasurer	Nellie Bundy
Conductress	Lodema Kubiak
Guard	Emma Cottrell
Secretary	Estelle LaPlante
Patriotic Instructor	Flora Klaubo
Trustee	Gertrude Mickow
Trustee	Edna Eads
Trustee	Kathryn Larsen
Musician	Alee Fulk
Color Bearer	Kathryn Larsen
Color Bearer	Amelia Loomis
Color Bearer	Selma Steen
Color Bearer	Rose Timar

1935 - 1936

## OFFICERS

Commander	Earl J. Snyder
Sr. Vice Com'r	Charles S. Cottrell
Jr. Vice Com'r	Walter E. Kubiak
Chaplain	Charles Klaubo
Quartermaster	Curtis Bundy
Adjutant	Jack Weis
Officer of the Day	Elmer Clyne
Sr. Color Bearer	Claude E. Jones
Jr. Color Bearer	Otto B. Steen
Guard	Edward M. Pinney
Trustee	Henry E. Eads
Trustee	Jack Weis
Trustee	Herman E. Buck



## LADIES' AUXILIARY

President	Leona Weis
Sr. Vice President	Birdie Burton
Jr. Vice President	Emma Cottrell
Chaplain	Lodema Kubiak
Treasurer	Julia Pagett
Conductress	Tassie Boyd
Guard	Louise Fauser
Secretary	Amelia Loomis
Patriotic Instruction	Ester Knerr
Trustee: 6 months	Laura Pajewski
Trustee: 12 months	Flora Klaubo
Trustee: 18 months	Estelle La Plante
Musician	Allee Fulk
Color Bearer	Selma Steen
Color Bearer	Viola Jones
Color Bearer	Geraldine Schwerin

1936 - 1937

### OFFICERS

Commander	Harry D. Galiher
Sr. Vice Com'r	Noah L. Berger
Jr. Vice Com'r	John McDonald
Quartermaster	Curtis Bundy
Adjutant	Owen Knerr
Post Advocate	Charles Klaubo
Chaplain	Albert J. Klug
Officer of the Day	Elmer Clyne
Patriotic Instruction	Allen Barnett
Service Officer	Earl J. Snyder
Legislative Officer	Edward Maginot
Trustee	Henry Eads
Trustee	John K. Fischer
Trustee	Henry Carr

## LADIES' AUXILIARY

President	Esther Knerr
Sr. Vice President	Lillian Carr
Jr. Vice President	Clara Buck
Chaplain	Lodema Kubiak
Treasurer	Luella Snyder
Conductress	Rose Timar
Secretary	Nellie Bundy
Guard	Rose Filsy
Patriotic Instruction	Tassie Boyd
Trustee: 6 months	Flora Klaubo
Trustee: 12 months	Estelle La Plante
Trustee: 18 months	Ethel Bouldin

Musician	Allee Fulk
Color Bearer	Viola Jones
Color Bearer	Geraldine Schwerin
Color Bearer	Nora Fischer
Color Bearer	Frances Dugan
Historian	Ester Willison

1937 - 1938

### OFFICERS

Commander	James J. Dugan
Sr. Vice Com'r	Claude E. Jones
Jr. Vice Com'r	Henry W. Carr
Quartermaster	Curtis Bundy
Adjutant	Owen C. Knerr
Officer of the Day	Walter Klamm
Patriotic Instructor	Everett M. Todd
Service Officer	Earl J. Snyder
Trustee	Harry Bouldin
Trustee	John K. Fischer
Trustee	Charles Klaubo
Sergeant Major	Allen Barnett
Quartermaster	William M. Meisel
Guard	Walter E. Kubiak
Sentinel	James Gammon
Color Bearer	Antonio S. Argentine
Color Bearer	Clyde Rice
Bugler	Charles J. Bowen

## LADIES' AUXILIARY

President	Ester Knerr
Sr. Vice President	Lillian Carr
Jr. Vice President	Clara Buck
Chaplain	Lodema Kubiak
Treasurer	Luella Snyder
Conductress	Tassie Boyd
Secretary	Nellie Bundy
Guard	May Darnell
Patriotic Instructor	Flora Klaubo
Trustee	Ethel Bouldin
Trustee	Edna Todd
Trustee	Verna Gammon
Color Bearer	Viola Jones
Color Bearer	Geraldine Schwerin
Color Bearer	Nora Fischer
Color Bearer	Frances Dugan
Historian	Ester Willison



1938 - 1939

# OFFICERS

Commander	James J. Dugan
Sr. Vice Com'r	John W. Blume
Jr. Vice Com'r	Henry W. Carr
Chaplain	Michael E. Mylott
Quartermaster	Curtis Bundy
Adjutant	William F. Boyd
Patriotic Instruction	Allen Barnett
Post Historian	Edward M. Pinney
Service Officer	Earl J. Snyder
Legislative Officer	Straley Thorpe
Trustee: 18 months	Charles Klaubo
Trustee: 12 months	Charles Simmons
Trustee: 6 months	John K. Fischer
Sergeant Major	Owen C. Knerr
Quartermaster Sergeant	Wm. M. Meisel
Guard	William Collins
Bugler	Charles J. Bowen

# LADIES' AUXILIARY

President	Flora Klaubo
Sr. Vice President	Sue Klamm
Jr. Vice President	Tassie Boyd
Treasurer	Luella Snyder
Secretary	Frances Dugan
Chaplain	Inez Schultz
Patriotic Instruction	Lillian Carr
Guard	May Darnell
Musician	Allee Fulk
Trustee: 6 months	Edna Todd
Trustee: 12 months	Ethel Bouldin
Trustee: 18 months	Dorothy Widing
Color Bearer: No. 1	Estelle LaPlante
Color Bearer: No. 2	Geraldine Schwerin
Color Bearer: No. 3	Verna Gammon
Color Bearer: No. 4	Elsie Uhan

1939 - 1940

# OFFICERS

Commander	Curtis Bundy
Sr. Vice Com'r	John W. Blume
Jr. Vice Com'r	Henry W. Carr
Chaplain	Frank Tripinski
Quartermaster	Noah L. Berger
Adjutant	William F. Boyd
Advocate	Allen Barnett
Officer of the Day	Werner P. Meissner

Patriotic Instruction	Walter Klamm
Historian	Milton Morris
Service Officer	Earl J. Snyder
Legislative Officer	James J. Dugan
Trustee: 18 months	Richard B. Judd
Trustee: 12 months	John K. Fischer
Trustees: 6 months	Charles Klaubo
Sergeant Major	Otto Pollman
Quartermaster Sgt.	Thos. R. Washington
Guard	William Collins
Sentinel	Claude E. Jones
Sr. Color Bearer	Paul A. Bobinsky
Jr. Color Bearer	William Krokoski
Bugler	Charles J. Bowen

# LADIES' AUXILIARY

President	Tassie Boyd
Sr. Vice President	Luella Snyder
Jr. Vice President	Constance Bobinsky
Treasurer	Nellie Bundy
Secretary	Frances Dugan
Chaplain	Julia Pagett
Conductress	Sue Klamm
Patriotic Instruction	Lillian Carr
Guard	Viola Jones
Musician	Allee Fulk
Trustee: 6 months	Dorothy Widing
Trustee: 12 months	Lillian Carr
Trustee: 18 months	Lodema Kubiak
Color Bearer	Verna Gammon
Color Bearer	Elsie Uhan
Color Bearer	Ethel Griffith
Color Bearer	Carrie Mardis
Historian	Geraldine Novalich

1940 - 1941

# OFFICERS

Commander	Walter Klamm
Sr. Vice Com'r	Milton Morris
Jr. Vice Com'r	Edward M. Pinney
Quartermaster	Frank Tripinski
Adjutant	Earl J. Snyder
Chaplain	William Krokowski
Officer of the Day	Werner P. Meissner
Patriotic Instruction	Edward Mulvihill
Service Officer	Earl J. Snyder
Legislative Officer	Lee R. Franklin
Historian	Raymond Willison
Quartermaster Sgt.	William Collins



Sergeant Major	Otto Pollman
Guard	Claude E. Jones
Sr. Color Bearer	Paul A. Bobinsky
Jr. Color Bearer	James Gammon
Trustee: 18 months	John K. Fischer
Trustee: 12 months	Claude M. Stokes
Trustee: 6 months	Richard B. Judd
Bugler	Charles J. Bowen

#### LADIES' AUXILIARY

President	Lillian Carr
Sr. Vice President	Goldie Stokes
Jr. Vice President	Dorothy Sauer
Treasurer	Tassie Boyd
Secretary	Bessie Brough
Chaplain	Julia Pagett
Conductress	Sue Klamm
Guard	Viola Jones
Patriotic Instruction	Flora Klaubo
Musician	Nora Fischer
Historian	Dorothy Sauer
Trustee: 6 months	Nora Fischer
Trustee: 12 months	Agnes Goetzen
Trustee: 18 months	Geraldine Novalich
Color Bearer	Alice Lundewall
Color Bearer	Allee Fulk
Color Bearer	Flo Wikel
Color Bearer	Ruth Casey

1941 - 1942

#### OFFICERS

Commander	William F. Boyd
Sr. Vice Com'r	Edward M. Pinney
Jr. Vice Com'r	Werner P. Meissner
Chaplain	William Krokowski
Quartermaster	Frank Tripinski
Adjutant	Earl J. Snyder
Post Advocate	Charles A. Klaubo
Officer of the Day	Paul A. Bobinsky
Patriotic Instruction	Henry W. Carr
Post Historian	John W. Blume
Service Officer	John W. Blume
Legislative Officer	James J. Dugan
Quartermaster Sgt.	William Collins
Guard	John Ton
Sr. Color Bearer	James Gammon
Jr. Color Bearer	Guisseppi Signorelli
Bugler	Henry W. Carr
Trustee	Richard B. Judd
Trustee	Claude M. Stokes
Trustee	John K. Fischer

#### LADIES' AUXILIARY

President	Constance Bobinsky
Sr. Vice President	Viola Jones
Jr. Vice President	Dorothy Sauer

Treasurer	Bessie Brough
Secretary	Flo Wikel
Chaplain	Julia Pagett
Conductress	Sue Klamm
Patriotic Instruction	Bernice Klamm
Guard	Cecile Krokoski
Musician	Nora Fischer
Trustee: 6 months	Marie Tripinski
Trustee: 12 months	Nora Fischer
Trustee: 18 months	Golda Stokes
Color Bearer	Alice Carr
Color Bearer	Jane Griffith
Color Bearer	Lillian Hitzeman
Color Bearer	Ruby Burgess
Historian	Dorothy Sauer

1942 - 1943

#### OFFICERS

Commander	Edward M. Pinney
Sr. Vice Com'r	Werner P. Meissner
Jr. Vice Com'r	Paul A. Bobinsky
Quartermaster	Everett M. Todd
Adjutant	Henry W. Carr
Chaplain	Victor Smith
Officer of the Day	Claude M. Stokes
Patriotic Instructor	Claude M. Stokes
Post Historian	John W. Blume
Service Officer	John W. Blume
Sergeant Major	Raymond Willison
Guard	Raymond A. Parks
Color Bearer	James Gammon
Color Bearer	Guisseppi Signorelli
Trustee	John K. Fischer
Trustee	Charles A. Klaubo
Trustee	Edward Hitzeman

#### LADIES' AUXILIARY

President	Viola Jones
Sr. Vice President	Dorothy Sauer
Jr. Vice President	Sue Klamm
Secretary	Golda Stokes
Treasurer	Bessie Brough
Chaplain	Rieth Casey
Conductress	Gertrude Buckles
Patriotic Instructor	Virginia Smith
Guard	Margaret Franklin
Musician	Nora Fischer
Trustee	Julia Pagett
Trustee	Lillian Carr
Trustee	Constance Bobinsky
Color Bearer	Verna Hansen
Color Bearer	Mable Matson
Color Bearer	Lillian Hitzeman
Color Bearer	Ruby Bergess
Historian	Lillian Carr



# 1943-1944

Commander	Werner P. Meissner
Sr. Vice Com'r	Paul A. Bobinsky
Jr. Vice Com'r	Albert J. Klug
Quartermaster	Everett M. Todd
Adjutant	Henry W. Carr
Chaplain	Victor Smith
Service Officer	John W. Blume
Historian	John W. Blume
Trustee	John K. Fischer
Trustee	Charles Klaubo
Trustee	Edwin Hitzeman
Sgt. Major	Raymond Willison
Guard	Lee Franklin
Color Bearer	James Gammon
Color Bearer	Joseph Signorelli

## LADIES AUXILIARY

President	Gertrude Buckle
Sr. Vice Pres.	Julia Pagett
Jr. Vice Pres.	Lillian Knerr
Treasurer	Bessie Brough
Secretary	Goldie Stokes
Chaplain	Ruth Casey
Conductress	Jennie Fritz
Patriotic Instructor	Viola Jones
Guard	Marguret Franklin
Musician	Nora Fischer
Trustee	Sue Klamm
Trustee	Lillian Carr
Trustee	Tassie Boyd
Color Bearer	Verna Hansen
Color Bearer	Allee Fulk
Color Bearer	Ethel Willison
Color Bearer	Virginia Smith
Historian	Lillian Knerr

# 1944-1945

Commander	Paul A. Bobinsky
Senior Vice Com'r	Peter Bent

Jr. Vice Com'r	Edward C. Ohlschlager
Quartermaster	Everett M. Todd
Chaplain	William Krokoski
Adjutant	Victor Smith
Service Officer	John W. Blume
Historian	John W. Blume
Post Advocate	Straley Thorpe
Officer of the Day	Raymond Willison
Legislative Officer	Milton Morris
Publicity Officer	Henry W. Carr
Employment Officer	Walter Klamm
Sergeant Major	Otto Pollman
Quartermaster Sgt.	William F. Boyd
Trustee, 3 years	John K. Fischer
Trustee, 2 years	Charles A. Klaubo
Trustee, 1 year	Thomas J. Burke
Bugler	Andrew V. Sokoloski
Color Bearer, Sr.	Joseph Signorelli
Color Bearer, Jr.	Paul Schafer
Guard	Lee R. Franklin
Patriotic Instructor	Werner P. Meissner

## LADIES AUXILIARY

President	Gertrude Buckle
Sr. Vice President	Lillian Knerr
Jr. Vice President	Verna Hansen
Treasurer	Bessie Brough
Secretary	Golda Stokes
Chaplain	Ruth Casey
Conductress	Jennie Fritz
Patriotic Instructor	Viola Jones
Guard	Cecile Krokowski
Musician	Nora Fischer
Trustee, 3 years	Lillian Carr
Trustee, 2 years	Nora Fischer
Trustee, 1 year	Tassie Boyd
Color Bearer	Ethel Willison
Color Bearer	Alee Fulk
Color Bearer	Lillian Carr
Color Bearer	Carrie Mardis



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## *Past Commanders and Personages of Edward A. Larsen Post No. 802, V.F.W.*

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HERMAN E. GRANGER

First Temporary Commander 1921



Herman E. Granger

Herman E. Granger was born December the 30th, 1873 in De Motte, Indiana. He was known by everyone as Ed. Granger, and was the son of William F. and Lucy Granger who reared a large family. He became an apprentice carpenter at Rensselaer, Indiana. After learning the trade he moved to Hammond.

June 27th, 1898, he enlisted in the United States Army and served in the Spanish American War. He served in Cuba with the 161st Volunteer Infantry of Indiana.

July 25th, 1900 he was married to Daisy M. Cross and to this union there were born three sons, Ellis, Forrest and Herman E., Jr. He was a great organizer, and was the first business agent for the Carpenters Union Local No. 599. He was also president of this organization for five years. In 1907 he was elected a delegate to the National Bi Annual convention at Niagara Falls, N. Y.

While still following his trade he studied law at the Kent College of Law and became actively engaged in the profession as soon as he graduated. He was very active in the organization of the Edward H. Larsen Post and was also a Past Commander of the Spanish American War Veterans.

SHERM G. STOLL

First Permanant Commander 1921



Sherm G. Stoll

Comrade Stoll enlisted July 26th, 1917, at Fort Bliss, Texas, and was a Grade Sergeant first class in the Quartermaster Corps. He arrived in France, September 28th, 1918, and left France July 1st, 1919, and arrived in the United States July 11th, 1919. He received his training at Fort Bliss and was with the Motor Transport Corps.

His parents, Abraham John and Martha Stoll resided at Mechanicsville, Iowa. The family consisted of two sons and three daughters.

Sherm G. Stoll was married to Miss Regina Brehm in 1921, and has lived in the Calumet Region ever since.

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HARRY C. MILLER

Harry C. Miller was born in Michigan City, Indiana, July 10th, 1896, and came to Hammond with his parents in 1906 and was educated in the Hammond Public schools.

He enlisted in the United States Naval Reserve Corps on November 1st, 1917, stationed



at Chicago, Municipal Pier (now known as the Navy Pier) and attended the Quartermaster School at Great Lakes. He left the Great Lakes early in 1918 for Philadelphia Navy Yards and transferred from there to Hampton Rhodes Naval Station at Hampton Rhodes, Virginia, for further training.

#### Commander 1922



Harry C. Miller

After he had completed his training at Hampton Rhodes he was assigned to the U.S.S. Maine, a fourth line battleship, for further actual sea training. In July, 1918, he was assigned to the U.S.S. Rijndam, a troop transport. He made four trips to France, landing twice in Brest and twice in St. Nazaire, transporting troops. He was in Brest, France, November 11th, 1918, the day the Armistice was signed.

After he made his fourth trip to France, he was again assigned to the Hampton Rhodes Naval Station and later to the Mine Sweeper, U.S.S. Swallow. He was discharged March 5th, 1919, while he was aboard the U.S.S. Rijndam; he was rated third class quartermaster and held that rating until he was discharged.

After returning to Hammond, Indiana, he was employed by the Bates Expanded Steel Truss Company; later he was employed by the Hammond Trust and Savings Bank and then by the American State Bank of East Chicago, Indiana. In 1929 he moved to Chicago, Illinois, and attended McKinlock Campus at the Northwestern University, majoring in accounting. At the present time he is employed by the Madison-Crawford National Bank in Chicago as Chief Clerk.

Mr. Miller was married on October 18th, 1935, to Miss Dorothy Pairot, who resided in Chicago, and a graduate from the Illinois University. To this union there was born a son, February 25th, 1938, who was named Don A. Miller, and at the present time they reside at 9029 S. Laflin street in Chicago.

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#### EDWARD B. BLAIR

#### Commander 1923

Every effort was made to secure a picture of Edward B. Blair and also a complete history of his life, but was unable to get it. I called by long distance telephone twice to some people by the name of Blair in Aurora, Illinois, and I wrote to the Waidley Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and finally received a reply that they would make an effort to get this information for me, but to date I have not received the information that I would like to have had.

Edward B. Blair passed away in a hospital in Gary, Indiana, January 15th, 1924, and was buried in Aurora, Illinois, January 18th. Internment was in West Aurora Cemetery and the services were conducted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Waidley Post of Aurora, Illinois. The services were held at the Healy Chapel.

Comrade Blair was born March 3, 1892, and was the son of William S. Blair and also a nephew of John A. Blair of Aurora. He was educated in Northwestern University, where he starred in athletics, particularly in football and track, winning many cups and medals.

He was employed by Swift & Company in Chicago for 15 years and he volunteered early in the World War for overseas service. He was in France when the armistice was signed. Edward was a victim of pneumonia, being ill but five days. He was 34 years old when he passed away.

The information that I have here came from the scrap book of Charles G. Kingwill, now living in Los Angeles, California.



## MAC M. McCLURE

Commander 1924 and 1925



Mac M. McClure

Mac M. McClure was born in Rensselaer, Indiana, on September 10, 1901, and attended grade schools in Rensselaer and Hammond, moving to the latter city in 1906.

He was attending the Hammond High School when World War number one was declared on April 6, 1917, and volunteered for enlistment on that date. After a couple of days of delay, he succeeded in obtaining permission of his parents to enlist, and was sent from Hammond to Fort Wayne, Indiana, on April 10, 1917. He was sworn in at Columbus Barracks, Ohio, April 14 and then sent to the Coast Artillery in Boston, Mass. He later was transferred to the Field Artillery and went overseas with the second division.

Comrade McClure participated in five major offensives and served on seven fronts. While serving with the Army of Occupation in Germany, he was injured in an auto accident and sustained a broken ankle. At a later date he travelled back to the States, through a series of thirteen hospitals, terminating at Fort Benjamin Harrison, General Hospital No. 25.

He was discharged on June 30, 1919. After working for about a year in various occupations, such as window trimming and selling pianos, and also as a painter at Grasselli Chemical Company, he decided to re-enlist in the army on July 23, 1920. He served on recruiting duty for a few weeks and then was sent to Fort Snelling, Minnesota, where he served one year in the 49th Infantry. He was again discharged on August 2, 1921, upon written request and due to reduction of the army.

Two months later he went to work for the Inland Steel Company in the Paymaster's Office, and spent about a year and a half in that department, then transferred to the General Superintendent's Office, where he worked for a number of years as a stenographer and secretary and executive clerk. In May, 1938, he was transferred to the Industrial Relations Department, which he has been in charge of for the past four years.

He was married to Miss June Fites, the daughter of Irwin and Vida Fites of Bourbon, Indiana. At the present time they reside at 245 Fairbanks Place, Munster, Indiana.

Comrade McClure was a very active member of this Post and served on many various committees and attended many conventions. He served as Commander for the years 1924 and 1925 and leaves behind him a record that every member of the Post is proud of.

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## CHESTER C. REED

Commander 1926



Chester C. Reed

The historian has made every effort to locate Comrade Chester C. Reed in order that a complete history of his life might have been recorded in this book. The picture of him was obtained from Walter Kubiak, which was taken at a banquet. The Calumet Engraving Company blocked his picture from the group and then had it enlarged, it is not quite as large as the rest of our cuts, but was the best we could do.

Comrade Reed transferred his membership



from the Emes Stillwell Post No. 630, of Champaign, Illinois, to the Edward H. Larsen Post and became Commander in 1926. He was born in LaFayette, Indiana, and enlisted in the World War of 1917 and 1918, on July 19, 1917, and was discharged June 5, 1919. He served with the 108th Supply Train in France and saw plenty of active service. He entered the service as a Private and attained the rank of Corporal.

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### GEORGE S. HOPPER

Commander 1927

George S. Hopper is another Commander that the historian has been unable to get much information on, and also to locate him, or any of his relatives.

The information that I have was taken from the Post record card. He was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1896. He was taken into the Post by Mac M. McClure on October 27, 1926. He was very active in Veterans affairs and was made Commander the following year. He enlisted in January, 1918, and was discharged in August, 1919.

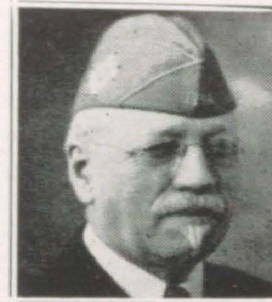
He served in the 79th Company, 6th Marines, and saw service in France, Belgium and Germany.

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### ADOLPH STARR

Mr. Starr was educated in Bridgeport, Conn., public grade and high schools, served apprenticeship as a machinist tool maker and gage maker at the Bullard Machine Tool Co., and served as a blacksmith apprentice in Southey's Quarry of that city. He went in the United States Navy as a Machinist's Mate during the Spanish American War and was, on account of his efficient work in his line, made a Chief Machinist by the Bureau of Naviga-

Commander 1928



Adolph Starr

tion, Washington, D. C., which position he held till 1910.

He made his trip around the world in battleships, cruisers and torpedo boat destroyers, ranging from 8,000 H.P. to 28,000 H.P., in his charge.

He served in Europe, China, Japan, Philippines, Hawaii, South America, Corfu Islands, Azores, Arabia, Turkey, Egypt, and Panama Canal Zone. He has made a trip around the world and has a long record of real deeds of merit, for which he has been decorated by the Navy Department.

Since he left the Navy he has held the position of Instructor of the State Trade School of Bridgeport, Conn., Process and Development Engineer and Chief Gage Inspector of the Winchester Repeating Arms Co., and Master Mechanic of The Trego Motor Works of New Haven, Conn.

During the World War he was Production Superintendent of the Maxim Munitions Corp. of Derby, Conn. He is the inventor and patentee of the adjustable bushing for rifles. He received a special appointment from Governor Holcomb of Connecticut as a Military Census Agent of New Haven, Conn., during the World War.

He was elected to membership as a senior member in the A.S.M.E. in 1917, and The Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers in 1921, and has been made a Military Engineer Member of The American Society of American Military Engineers. He is a graduate of the National Salesmen's Training Association of Chicago, and received his M.S. degree in September, 1921.



A graduate Master Letter Writer and a student of American Law and Procedure of The LaSalle Extension University and DePaul University of Chicago.

A past Senior Vice Commander of United Spanish War Veterans of Bridgeport, Conn. A member of Corinthian Lodge No. 104, A. F. & A. M., Franklin Chapter No. 2, Royal Arch Masons, Harmony Council No. 8, Royal and Select Masters, and a Knight Templar of York Commandry No. 55.

Has taken leading parts in the ritualistic degree staff of Greater Chicago Lodge No. 3, Loyal Order of Moose, where he was elected to go to the national convention at Philadelphia in August, 1927, to take one of the leading parts in the initiation of 5,000 members and was requested to take part in a contest of ritualistic work held at this time where members from all over the United States participated, and Mr. Starr's team carried away one of the prizes.

He has made a host of friends in Hammond and Chicago since he located here.

His hobby is to argue legal questions and he has made some reputation in that line.

He is the Past National Chaplain of the Navy Club, U. S. A., Past Department Patriotic Instructor of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Past Commander of United Spanish War Veterans, Brinkerhoff Camp, Number 47, of Gary, Indiana.

He is considered a very competent public speaker and has had much experience in radio broadcasting.

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### LIGHTEL L. WHITAKER

Commander 1929 and 1930

Comrade Whitaker was born February 14, 1896, and resides at Fair Oaks, Indiana, at the present time. He was married to Miss Pauline Lange and to this union there were born three sons and three daughters. He is employed as a



Lightel L. Whitaker

mechanic at the Ford Motor Company. He is the son of Charles R. and Lillie M. Whitaker of Fair Oaks, Indiana.

He enlisted in the World War June 2, 1918, from Hammond, Indiana, and trained in Joseph E. Johnston Camp at Jacksonville, Florida. He sailed for France, August 14th, 1918, and served with the M. S. T., 415 M. T. Co. 452. He was engaged in two major drives, the St. Mihiel and the Meuse Argonne.

He returned to the States May 30th, 1919, and was discharged June 4th, 1919. His serial number was 789630 and his present Social Security number is 306-01-9197. Lightel was a very active member of this Post and served as Commander two terms.

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### CHARLES A. KLAUBO

Commander 1930, 1931, 1934, 1935



Charles A. Klaubo

Charles A. Klaubo was born February 27, 1898, and was the son of Adolph and Josephine Klaubo. His parents passed away when he was but a very small boy. He received his education in the Hammond schools in Ham-



mond, Indiana.

He enlisted from Hammond on April 26, 1917, and was sent to Fort Thomas, Ky., and then to Fort Eaton, Allen, Vermont, and to Camp Shelby, Harrisburg, Miss. He was attached to the Cavalry and later transferred to the 76th Field Artillery and sailed for France April 23, 1918, and served with the 3rd Division in the Field Artillery.

While in France he served in the following engagements: Champagne Marne, July 15-18, 1918, ; Ausne Marne, July 18-Aug. 4; St. Mehiel, Sept. 12-16; Meuse Argonne, Sept. 26-Nov. 11, 1918. He returned to the United States August 23, 1919, and was discharged August 29th of the same year. His serial number while in service was 1550699 and his Social Security number at the present time is 306-10-8554.

After he received his discharge he returned to Hammond, Indiana, and was married to Miss Flora A. Kijowski, who is the daughter of Matthew and Nellie Kijowski, and to this union were born two sons, Walter and Charles, and two daughters, Dolores and Charlotte. He served as Commander of this Post for the year 1931 and also 1934.

As soon as he returned to Hammond he went to work for Reid-Murdock and was an assistant cooper there. Later he went to work for the Nowak Milling Corporation as assistant shipping clerk; later he was appointed to Assistant Superintendent and held this position until the company was dissolved. At the present time he is employed by the Chicago District Electric Generating Corporation as Supervisor. His present address is 1536 Hoffman St., Hammond, Indiana.

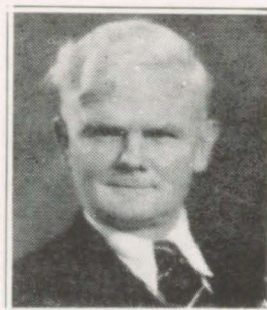
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#### FRANCIS P. DUGAN

Francis P. Dugan was born April 9, 1879, at Ottawa, Illinois. In his early childhood his parents moved to Lebanon, Pennsylvania, and he received most of his education in the schools there.

He enlisted in the United States Army,

Commander 1931-1932



Francis P. Dugan

August 22, 1900, and served in the Philippine Insurrection of 1901-1902. He left San Francisco, California, April 15, 1901, and arrived in the Philippine Islands, May 13, 1901; he served in Company B, 11th Infantry and was discharged August 20, 1903.

About two weeks after he returned home, his mother passed away and about two years later his father passed away. Shortly after he returned home he went to work in the steel mills at Lebanon. He was the son of Hugh and Bridget Dugan. On October 13, 1913, he was married to Mrs. Tillie DeLore, who was the daughter of Thomas and Mary Burke of East Chicago, Indiana. To this union was born a daughter, who is Mrs. Mary Margaret Weiner, and she resides at the present time in Hammond. The present address of Mrs. Tillie Dugan is 4937 Pine street, Hammond, Ind.

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#### CURTIS BUNDY

Curtis Bundy was born March 22, 1889, at Bluford, Illinois. He was the son of Jack and Sarah Bundy of Bluford, Illinois. He was married to Miss Nellie A. Buzard, the daughter of Mr. Walter and Nettie Buzard of Cashmere, Washington. At the present time he is foreman of the lumber yard of the Northern Indiana Lumber and Coal Company, 114th and Lake avenue, Whiting, Indiana.

Comrade Bundy enlisted in the United States Army, March 26, 1911, at Jefferson





Curtis Bundy

Barracks, Missouri, and on May 10, was assigned to Company E, 10th U. S. Infantry stationed at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas. He served in the maneuvers of 1911 at Camp Wilson, Texas, and Leon Springs. On September 27, 1911, he sailed for the Panama Canal arriving in Colon, October 4, 1911. Was stationed at Camp E. S. Otis, Las Cadis, Canal Zone. Was discharged March 27, 1914.

While in service in the Panama Canal Zone he saw the Canal from the Atlantic to the Pacific as it was rapidly being completed. Was present at the ceremonies at Gamboa, December 13, 1913, when the United States Engineers blew the great Gamboa Dyke, which connected the two oceans — witnessed the passing of the first ship through the Canal.

He was again called to the service May 29, 1918, and stationed at Camp Shelby, Mississippi — sailed for France, September 10, 1918, with Company D, 150th U. S. Infantry. Discharged from Camp Grant, Illinois, April 26, 1919. His serial number was 1557970.

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### HENRY EARL EADS

Henry Earl Eads was born October 18, 1893, at Versailles, Indiana. He came from a large family and was reared on a farm until he was 17 years old. He graduated from the Versailles High School and shortly thereafter he went to work carrying mail from Versailles to Osgood, Indiana, in 1908. He drove a horse



Henry E. Eads

drawn vehicle and made four round trips a day, in those days this type of truck was called a buckboard. Later the company by whom he was employed bought an auto mail and passenger truck, and this was the first truck to operate between these two towns.

When war was declared he enlisted in Chicago, May 26, 1917, and was sent to the United States Naval Air Base at Pensacola, Florida. After receiving five months of training he sailed for France October 16, 1917, and there he received training in a motor and bombing school at Paris, France, and later was stationed at the United States Air Base at Dunkirk, France. From there he was sent to Zebrugge, Belgium, near Holland.

After the war was over he returned to the United States and lived in Indianapolis, Indiana, and later married Miss Edna Haugh. He was employed at the Lexington Motor Company as mechanic. He moved to Hammond in 1926 and received three years training at the Hammond Technical High School as a machinist and electrical welder.

He is Past Senior and Junior Vice Commander, Past District Commander, Past Deputy Department Inspector, Past Post Degree Team Captain, and Past Deputy Department Chief of Staff of the State of Indiana. He is a member of the Versailles Lodge No. 7, F. & A. M., the Chapter, Commandary, and Orak Shrine, all in Hammond. Commander Eads has been a very busy man fulfilling the various offices he has held for the past several years.



## EARL J. SNYDER

Commander 1935-1936



Earl J. Snyder

Earl J. Snyder, 5746 Hohman avenue. Born at Madison, Indiana, May 5, 1893. Educated in the grammar and high school there. He enlisted October 3, 1917, at Madison, Indiana, and received his training at Camp Taylor, Kentucky, located near Louisville, Kentucky. He served 18 months in France in the 101st Supply Train 26th Division.

Comrade Snyder served in six different engagements, Chemins-des Dames (Defensive), Toul Sector (Defensive), Chateau Theiry (Offensive), St. Mihiel Rupt and Thryon Sector, Soissons Sector and Meuse Argonne (Offensive).

He was discharged on May 6, 1919, at Camp Taylor, Kentucky, and in 1920 entered the Askins College of Embalming and was graduated in 1922, and has worked at this profession ever since.

He was married to Miss Luella Claus who was the daughter of Rev. Theodore and Anna Claus of Hammond. The Rev. Claus was the Pastor of the St. Paul's Evangelical Church located at 215 Clinton street and Earl was the son of Jacob and Marie Snyder of Madison, Indiana.

He holds memberships in the Edward H. Larsen Post No. 802, American Legion Post No. 168, the Trinity English Lutheran Church, Hammond Safety Council, and is owner and manager of the Snyder Funeral Home.

## HARRY D. GALIHER

Commander 1936-1937

Harry DeMoss Galiher served the first half of this term of office and Noah L. Berger served the latter half of the term.

Comrade Galiher was born February 5, 1889, at Richmond, Indiana. Paternal ancestors served in the United States Army from 1788 to Sioux Campaign of 1891-1892.

Individual: Coast Artillery Corps 1906-1909, 32nd Company, Fort Baker, Calif.; Special Units thereafter to 1912; Commissioned 1st Lieut. Signal Corps, Regular Army, September 22, 1917; Promoted to Captain, November 1, 1918; Served in France and continental Europe to April, 1919; Infantry Reserve Corps — Captain, 1924-1930; Vol-



Harry D. Galiher

unteered December 15, 1941; Examined by Medical Board, Fort Harrison, Indiana—Military Police, February 3, 1942; Disqualified viz: "Defective hearing, Nerve deafness — bilateral, progressive, Tuberculosis adult type, pulmonary, healed. Insufficient natural teeth."

Education: Public Schools, Richmond, Indiana; Bingham Military Institute, Mebane, North Carolina, and Arkansas Military Academy, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Married — happily, to Ruth Elizabeth Kempson, November 11, 1941.

Hobby: Good literature, saddle horses and golf.

Motto: "*Toujour Pret*" Paternal family crest: Inverted Crescent with Serpent erect.



## NOAH L. BERGER

Commander 1936-1937



Noah L. Berger

Noah L. Berger was born at Gilead, Indiana, in 1899 and was the son of William and Mary Jane Berger and was educated in the schools of Gilead.

He entered the service of the United States Army April 17, 1917, and went to Camp Shelby, Mississippi, then to Camp Mills, then to Quebec, Canada, and sailed from this point to London, England, then South Hampton, then crossing the Channel to Le Havre, France. He was in Company H, 116th Infantry in the 29th Division.

After the war was over he sailed for home, May 20, 1919, from St. Nazaire, France, and entered the United States at Newport News, Virginia, and received his discharge from the service at Chillicothe, Ohio.

His first employment after leaving the service was with the General Electric Company at Fort Wayne, Indiana. After three years of service with them he came to Hammond, Indiana, and joined the Postal service here and he is still in the Postal service in Hammond.

He was married to Miss Lucile Cutshall, who was the daughter of John and Clara Cutshall of Wabash, Indiana, and to this union there was born a daughter, Mildred. At the present time he resides at 6925 Harrison street, Hammond, Indiana.

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## JAMES J. DUGAN

James J. Dugan was born April 19, 1902, in Waverly, Tennessee. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Dugan and was educated in

## Commander 1937-1938-1939



James J. Dugan

the schools of Waverly, Tenn. He left school in April of 1917, to enlist in the Army. Being only 17 years of age, he had quite a bit of trouble in getting in. He was finally accepted in the United States Cavalry on May 12, 1917, and was sent to Fort Ethan, at Allen, Vermont, and there was assigned to the 19th U. S. Cavalry. This regiment was later transferred to the 77th Field Artillery.

He received training at Camp Shelby and also at Camp Green, in North Carolina, and there he was assigned to the regular 4th Army Division, and from there he went to Camp Merritt, the Embarkation Camp for over-seas troops. They boarded the H. M. S. Horatio and landed in Liverpool, England, then to Winchester, South Hampton, Le Havre, France, Bordeaux, and then into the front lines in the second battle of the Marne, Veil Sector, St. Mihiel, Belleau Woods, where he served continuously until the Armistice was signed.

After the signing of the Armistice he made the hike into Germany as a unit of the 3rd Army of Occupation, where he served in several towns in and around Coblenz. He sailed for the United States in August, 1919, and was discharged in Atlanta, Georgia. He re-entered High School for one year after returning home and then enlisted in the Marines.



## JOHN W. BLUME

Commander 1939-1940

John W. Blume was born April 17, 1892, at McKittrick, Missouri. He was the son of William and Minnie F. Blume. When he was five years of age they moved to Hermann, Missouri, where they lived for a few months. In 1903 his father bought a farm about seven miles south of Fayette, Missouri, about three years later he sold that farm and purchased another adjoining the south city limits of New Franklin, Missouri. He received most of his education in the school there.



John W. Blume

He was inducted into the United States Army at Fayette, Missouri, and entered Camp Pike at Little Rock, Arkansas, for training. After three weeks training there, was transferred to Camp Merritt, New Jersey. A few days were spent in Camp Merritt and he boarded the English cattle boat, Cedric, and headed for Liverpool, England. It took thirteen days to make this crossing. Several days were spent at Camp Knotty Ash, at Liverpool, and then transferred to South Hampton, from which point they crossed the English Channel and landed at Cherebourg, France.

Ninety-one days after leaving his home he was in the front line trenches on the St. Mihiel front, with the Rainbow Division, or also known as the 42nd Division, composed of National Guard units from all over the United States. The 165th Regiment was known as the New York regiment; the 166th, Ohio; 167th, Alabama; and the 168th as the Iowa regi-

ment; Blume was in Company B, 166th regiment.

On October 14, when his division made the drive in the Argonne Forest, he received mustard gas burns, and the last night that he was with his outfit he was called on to go on patrol in no-man's-land to capture Germans that were to be turned over to the intelligence department for information. After a heavy bombardment of artillery and gas barrage they returned to their dug-out and the following morning he was sent to Base Hospital No. 48, near Mars, France, spending about three months there and was there when the Armistice was signed.

He sailed from Brest, France, March 26, 1919, and landed at Hoboken, New Jersey, April 2, and was sent to Camp Upton on Long Island, from there to Camp Taylor at Louisville, Kentucky, where he was discharged May 5, 1919.

His first employment was as a salesman with the American Tobacco Company with headquarters at Sedalia, Missouri, serving about seven months with them. Then he went to work for the United States Tire Company, working out of the St. Louis branch, traveling a central Missouri territory. After six years of service he went with the Goodrich Tire Company, working out of the St. Louis branch and making the same central Missouri territory, and served about six years with them. He then went into the tire business with his brother-in-law, L. H. Biermann, at Moberly, Missouri, operating branch stores at Macon and Sedalia, Missouri. In 1934 he went to work for the Brown & Bigelow Company, traveling a southern Illinois territory, and in 1935 he came to Hammond, Indiana, and opened the store for the B. F. Goodrich Rubber Company at the corner of Hohman and Ogden street, of which he was manager for more than a year. While manager of this store he met his present wife, who was then Mrs. Ola M. Emmerling, and they were married December 19, 1936, and since that time he has been connected with the Emmerling Funeral Chapel.

He is a member of the F. & A. M., Howard Lodge No. 4, at New Franklin, Missouri, Chapter and Commandary at Fayette, Missouri, and Shrine at Hammond, Indiana. He



has been Editor of the Orak-El, a monthly publication of Orak Temple, President of the Shrine Luncheon Club, which meets every Friday at noon for lunch. He is a member of the Hammond Chamber of Commerce, the American Legion, the Eagles, the Indiana Funeral Directors' Association. He is a Past Junior and Senior Vice Commander, Past Chaplain of the Larsen Post, and was appointed by Mayor Bertram G. Smith to serve on the Rationing Board for the duration of World War No. two. He was also a member of the degree team of the Larsen Post which carried away so many honors in every contest they have entered to date. His serial number in the World War was 3266208 and his Social Security number is 307-01-2754.

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## WALTER KLAMM

Commander 1940-1941

Walter Klammm was born in Pinsk, Poland, April 18, 1897, and came to Hammond, Indiana, in 1912. He received his education in the schools in Russia and in the Hammond high school.

He enlisted in the United States Marines May 2, 1916, in Chicago, Illinois, and was sent to Camp Paris, Island, South Carolina. He was stationed there about three months and was sent to Haiti with the 19th Company of Marines. After arriving there he was transferred to the 16th Company. After war was declared he was sent back to the United States and landed at Philadelphia Navy Yards. He sailed for France June 14, 1917, this being the first troop transport that sailed for France, and they landed at St. Nazaire for further training.

He went into the lines on the Verdun Sector, February 18, 1918, and was attached to the 33rd French Division. He served in France from June 14, 1917, to August 6, 1919.

He served on the Toulon Sector from March 17, to May 13, 1918; Aisne defensive

May 31 to June 5; Chateau Thierry Sector (Belleau Woods) June 6 to July 9; Aisne Marne offensive July 18 to 19 and was discharged at Camp Quantico, Virginia, May 11, 1920.



Walter Klammm

He was awarded a Croix de Guerre for extraordinary heroism in the presence of the enemy in the Toulon Sector, April 20, 1918. He was wounded on this date, and was wounded again on July 19, 1918, on the Aisne Marne Sector. He served as a Corporal from April 26, 1918, until he was discharged in the United States.

After he was discharged he returned to Hammond and took up his regular work as a cabinet maker at the Straube Piano Company. At the present time he is working for the Landack Mill Work Company, 4426 Calumet avenue, Hammond, Indiana.

He was the son of John and Julia Klammm of Pinsk, Poland, and he was married to Miss Pauline Hanus of Hammond, and she was the daughter of Steve and Caroline Hanus. To this union there were born two daughters, Adline and Bernice, and one son, Walter, Jr. His wife, Pauline Klammm, passed away on October 11, 1933. Mrs. Klammm was a charter member of the Ladies Auxiliary. He was married again to Mrs. Sue Cloutier on October 23, 1937, and she was the daughter of Martin and Anna Mazurek of Hammond, Indiana. His social security number was 306-10-6606. He did not have a serial number while in service with the Marines.

Commander Klammm was very active in all



Veterans' affairs. He is a member of the Degree Team and has served the Post as Officer of the Day and Junior Vice-Commander, and also as Trustee. In the State Department he served as Sergeant at Arms and also as Aide De Camp.

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## WILLIAM F. BOYD

Commander 1941-1942



William F. Boyd

William F. Boyd was born October 20, 1894, at Greencastle, Indiana. He was the son of Charles and Alice Welty Boyd. When he was four years old he moved with his parents to Indianapolis, Indiana, and was educated in the schools there.

He learned the decorating trade at an early age, which he still follows. On November 2, 1917, he enlisted in the Medical Corps of the United States Army at Fort Thomas, Kentucky; and received his training in the following camps: Camp Oglethorpe, Georgia, Camp Taylor, Kentucky, and Camp Merritt, New Jersey.

He sailed for Brest, France, September 4, 1918, and was stationed at Camp Hospital No. 11 at St. Nazaire, France. He was discharged

at Camp Sherman, Ohio, August 6, 1919. His serial number while in the Army was 1988650.

Shortly after his discharge he met Miss Tassie Cook in Memphis, Tenn. She was the daughter of Elisha and Elizabeth Cook of Houston, Mississippi. They were married August 28, 1922, and to this union was born one son, William, Jr., and one daughter, Alice. They have lived in Hammond ever since they have been married.

Comrade Boyd was a faithful worker for the Veterans' cause, and made many friends while Commander of the Post. It was he who insisted that a history of the Post should be made up and that he wanted this program started under his administration. When he approached the present Historian on the matter, they discussed the huge task of assembling this data, due to the fact that from 1930 to 1936 all records had been lost or destroyed in a fire when we were located on State street. After several days of deliberation, Comrade Blume accepted the task assigned to him.

The book was made up in loose leaf form, so that, if and when, new data was collected after the book had been finished, it could be written up and placed in the book where it should be. It was also decided that this book would not be written for a select few, but that any member of the Post that would furnish a cut of himself, and a sketch of his life, that it would be published in this book at no cost to the member.

Had it not been for Past Commander Curtis Bundy, who named all the officers in the period that the records were lost or destroyed, there would have been a missing link in the records for that period. Thanks to comrade Bundy for this fine service.



## EDWARD M. PINNEY

Commander 1942-1943



Edward M. Pinney

Edward M. Pinney was born July 18, 1875, at Lincoln, Illinois. He was the son of Julius and Sarah Pinney. While a very young man he moved with his parents to Boonville, Missouri, and was educated in the schools of that city.

After he had finished school he, like many other boys, did many odd jobs. He finally went to work for John Eagler, who was building the bridge for the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railroad, over the Missouri River at Boonville, Missouri. John Eagler happened to be the uncle of John W. Blume, the present Historian of the Post. This bridge was completed in 1896. In the late twenties this bridge was torn down and replaced with a new and modern structure.

On July 20, 1898, he enlisted in the United States Army from California, Missouri. He was sent to Camp Columbia, Cuba, about 10 miles west of Havana. He was discharged April 6, 1899, from the hospital at Camp Columbia and he then returned to his home at Boonville, Mo.

In 1900 he went to Bloomington, Illinois, and went to work for the C. and A. Railroad in the bridge and building department; from there he moved to Decatur, Illinois.

He was married to Miss Ida Crew, who was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Crew of Bloomington, Illinois, on October 24, 1900, and to this union were born one son, Frederick, who died when a very small child, and

two daughters, Mrs. Frany Morenz of Hammond and Mrs. Rosy Conroy of Decatur, Illinois.

Mrs. Ida Pinney, the wife of Comrade Pinney, passed away September 15, 1930, at Decatur, Illinois. Edward then came to Hammond to live with his daughter, Mrs. Frany Morenz, in 1931; the present address is 518—173rd street, Hammond, Indiana.

Due to ill health, Commander Pinney resigned as Commander in the month of July. The Post accepted his resignation with regrets and made him an Honorary Commander for the balance of his year; in addition they presented him a check for \$50.00 for the fine service that he had rendered the Post. Senior Vice Commander Werner P. Meissner was immediately installed as the Commander for the balance of the year. On July 18 the Larsen Post gave a party in honor of Comrade Pinney and all enjoyed a very nice time. He passed away Nov. 9, 1943.

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## WERNER P. MEISSNER

Commander 1942-1943—1943-1944



Werner P. Meissner

Werner P. Meissner was born August 3, 1900, in La Porte, Indiana. At an early age he moved with his parents to Whiting, Indiana, and was educated in the public schools there.

On April 14, 1917, when he was only 16 years of age, he enlisted in the United States Cavalry at Hammond, Indiana. On April 18, 1917, he took his Oath at Columbus, Ohio,



and was sent from there to Del Rio, Texas, and assigned to C Troop, 14th Cavalry, for training. In a very short time he was transferred to Headquarters Troop in the 6th Division, composed of the 6th, 8th, 14th and 16th Cavalry Troops, and on December 7, 1917, they were stationed at San Antonio, Texas.

They left San Antonio, Texas, on March 20th for Chattanooga, Tenn., for Camp Forest, arriving there March 24, 1918. On May 9th they were again transferred to Camp Wadsworth at Wadsworth, S. C., arriving there May 10th. On June 29th they left Camp Wadsworth for Camp Mills, L. L., and arrived there July 1st and spent the fourth of July at Coney Island. Embarked for France on the transport "Desna" (an English boat) with a fleet of 20 or more ships, arriving at Halifax harbor July 9th and left the following day for France.

### *On the High Seas*

On July 17, 1918, at 7:30 P.M., we sighted a submarine and most of our fleet opened fire on it. We did not know if we damaged the sub or not. The food on our trip going over was very poor. It took us 15 days to make the crossing and arrived at LeHavre, France, on July 22.

### *In France*

We were stationed at a rest camp at Le-Havre for a day and then moved to Chauteauvillian by rail and arrived there July 25, 1918, and were billeted in an old barn. After several days in these billets, we moved by truck to Remiremont, arriving there August 26; we left there the next day by truck for LeCollette to do M.P. duty; on September 12 we went to Gerardmer and remained there until October 26, when we left by rail for Futeau, arriving there the following day. On November 6, we left for Mt. Blainville and it was there I had my first experience in a dug-out; we spent two nights in this dug-out. We left there on November 8 for Grandpre and stayed there for the night and on November the 9, we headed for Authe, arriving there the same day. On November 11 we left for Futeau arriving there the same day. On November 12 we went by truck to Verdun arriving there at 3 A.M., November 13. We left Verdun on November

21, and arrived at Chancenay the next day and on the 30th we left there for Aignay le Duc, arriving there on December 1st. We remained there until April 28, 1919, when we were sent to Bertrich, Germany, remaining there until May 24, when we entrained for Brest, France, arriving there on May 28; left Brest on June 3 on board the S. S. Mt. Vernon, docked in Hoboken, N. J., on June 10, 1919, for Camp Mills. On June 14 we were sent to Camp Sherman, Ohio, where we received our discharge on June 18, 1919.

He returned to his home in Whiting, Indiana, and went to work for the Sinclair Refining Company. He was married to Miss Alice Stavanaugh, who was the daughter of Henrietta and Samuel Stavanaugh of Waterville, Minnesota. His serial number in the army was 1,140,439 and his present address is 1318 Davis Ave., Whiting, Indiana. He became a member of the Larsen Post March 4, 1918, is a member of the Degree Team, and became Commander of this Post July 17, 1942.

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### JAMES F. PACE

1st District Commander, 1942-1943



James F. Pace

James F. Pace, District Commander of the First District, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Indiana, served with Second Battalion, 148 Infantry, 37 Division, Ohio National Guards in France.

He hails from Newark, New Jersey, where he served as Legislative Chairman for the Veterans of Foreign Wars in the year of 1919.



He left Newark to complete his law course in Oklahoma City University and later settled in Richmond, Indiana, to practice law and organized a Veterans of Foreign Wars Post there and became its first Commander and served for two years. He was one of the organizers of the Steel City Post 909, Gary, Indiana, and served as Judge Advocate.

He was Senior Vice Commander in the First District, 1940-1941, and was appointed Chairman of the Citizenship and Medal Awards Committee by Past Department Commander Merville Ray and was reappointed by Past Department Commander Charles L. Hopkins while serving in that capacity.

On June 1, 1941, Comrade Pace was elected District Commander at LaPorte, Indiana, and was installed at the Department Convention June 30, 1941, at Michigan City, Indiana. He is also a practicing attorney at 708 Broadway, Gary, Indiana.

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#### ALBERT J. KLUG



Albert J. Klug

Albert J. Klug, our present Junior Vice Commander, was born April 9, 1893, at Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He was the son of Albert and Mary Klug of Wilkes-Barre.

His first enlistment in the United States Army was on August 10, 1911. He served in the regular army in the Medical Corps for a period of three years.

On July 22, 1918, he was inducted in the United States Army for the second time from Kingston, Pennsylvania, and was sent to Camp Lee, Virginia.

He embarked for Brest, France, September 23, 1918, and arrived in Brest, October 7, 1918. He was in the 147th Company, Transportation Corps. He was a boilermaker by trade and served in that capacity in the United States Army in the railroad service. He was stationed most of the time at Is-sur-Tille, France.

He sailed back from Brest to the United States on September 20, 1919, landing in Hoboken, New Jersey, and from there was sent to Camp Dix, New Jersey, where he was discharged on September 25, 1919.

He went back to his home in Kingston, Pa., for a short visit, and then went to Los Angeles, California. He was employed there by the Southern Pacific railroad shops for about one year. He then went to work in the building trade there.

In 1926, he went to Greenwich, Conn., and worked in the building trade, remained there for three years, returning to Los Angeles, still staying with the building trade.

In 1934 he came to Hammond, Indiana, and went to work for the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company in Indiana Harbor where he is still employed.

He was married to Miss Anna Scherer, who was the daughter of Nicholas and Katherine Scherer of Griffith, Indiana. His serial number while in the army was 4,076,684 and his social security number is 312-09-4895; his present address is 1125 — 167th street, Hammond, Indiana.

He was elected as Junior Vice Commander of the Larsen Post, July 17, 1942, and became a member of this Post, April 17, 1936.



## ROBERT A. BLUME



Robert A. Blume

Robert A. Blume was born August 10, 1886, at McKittrick, Missouri. He was the son of William and Minnie Blume, both deceased and buried at New Franklin, Missouri.

Robert and his brother John, the present Historian of this Post, both entered the service on the 24th day of June, 1917, at Fayette, Missouri, and both were sent to Camp Pike, Arkansas, at Little Rock for training.

Robert left Camp Pike for Camp Merrit, New Jersey, the early part of September, 1918, was there a day or two and sailed for Brest, France. He stayed at a camp in Brest for about two weeks, then was transferred to a camp further in the interior, where they received gas mask drills, and about 10 days later were sent to the front lines at Damare, France, in the Argonne Sector.

After the Armistice was signed they moved into the Toul Sector, and from there they followed the retreating Germans into Germany. They crossed the Moselle River, then the Rhine River, entering Germany on December 1, 1918. They arrived in Coblenz, Germany, about the 17th of December and from there they went to Neidermending, arriving there about the 20th of December. He was stationed there until August 6, 1919; his Division Headquarters being stationed at Andernack, Germany.

He went to an American school in Brush-Bole, Germany, where the Rainbow Division was stationed. The Rainbow was sent back to the States in April, 1919, and the 3rd Division took over their area on the 8th of April. He traveled through France, Alsace-Lorraine, Luxemburg, Belgium and Germany.

It took 17 days to make the hike from the Toul Sector, a distance of 220 miles, to Neidermending, Germany.

He sailed from Brest, France, on his birthday, the 10th day of August, 1919, and landed at Hoboken, N. J., August 20, 1919.

He was discharged on August 26, 1919, at Camp Taylor at Louisville, Kentucky. His serial number in the service was 3,266,205. He is now living in Los Angeles, California.

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## CHARLES GATES KINGWILL



Charles Gates Kingwill

Charles G. Kingwill was born in Chicago, Illinois, July 25, 1862, and was educated in the public schools of that city.

In September, 1880, he joined Troop D of the Illinois First Cavalry and served as First Sergeant in this outfit for two years, receiving an honorable discharge in 1884. In October of the same year he joined the Fourth Division of the Illinois Naval Militia in Chicago, serving as Quartermaster in this outfit until war was declared with Spain in 1898. He then enlisted as a seaman in the U. S. Navy and was sent in charge of the Second Company of



Naval recruits which was on May 24, 1898.

He was sent from Chicago to Key West, Florida, and arrived there on June 1 of the same year, and was sent aboard the *Lancaster*. He was placed in charge as coxswain of the dingey, carrying orders to other ships of the fleet. On June 5, he was transferred to the *U. S. S. Monitor Puritan* on which he served in the Havana blockade, and the Puerto Rico campaign. Comrade Kingwill returned to the United States in late September of that year and was honorably discharged from the ship at Portsmouth, Virginia, Navy Yard on October 3rd, 1898. He again joined the naval reserves in Chicago and served until 1904 and then came to Hammond, Indiana.

He was employed by the American Steel Foundries Company soon after he arrived here and served this company in an executive capacity for many years, and retired on a pension on December 31, 1928.

He was a Charter member of the Edward H. Larsen Post and served the Post in many varied capacities. As chairman of the entertainment committee, he brought many high-class entertainments to Hammond with nice profits to the Post. In 1922 the play was Pat Barnes in "A Buck on Leave," and in 1923, Mme. Schumann-Heink. She made a return engagement in 1926. Sousa and his band entertained the people of Hammond in 1924. Several carnivals were also sponsored by 802 and then in 1928 he brought to Hammond, with the consent of the Post, the United States Navy Band. Many war pictures were also brought here by Comrade Kingwill.

On Washington's Birthday of 1928, as chairman of the entertainment committee, he was instrumental in bringing our National Commander, Frank Strayer, to Hammond. A large banquet was served in the Chamber of Commerce rooms in his honor.

Comrade Kingwill was a delegate to the National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in 1922 in Seattle, Washington, and in 1928 at Indianapolis, Indiana, and again in

1933 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In 1931 he moved to Los Angeles, California, and has resided there ever since. His present address is 201 Worthington Apartments, 1059 S. Manhattan place, Los Angeles, California.

(Octagon) May, 1922.

That celebrated A. E. F. musical comedy, "A Buck on Leave," written and produced by our own Pat Barnes (formerly of the Sharon Works), was presented recently at the Parthenon Theatre at Hammond, for two evening performances and a matinee. Chiefly instrumental in bringing this show to Hammond was Mr. C. G. Kingwill, veteran of the Spanish-American War, and the proceeds, which amounted to \$700.00 net, were turned over to Edward H. Larsen Post No. 802, Veterans of Foreign Wars, under whose auspices the affair was promoted.

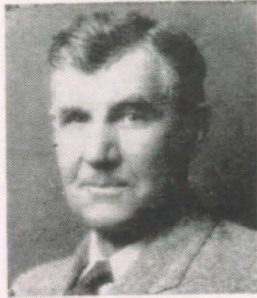
A local newspaper, in speaking of the show, made the following comments: "C. G. Kingwill takes the part of General Pershing, but the Buck (referring to Pat Barnes) is not overawed by the Commander-in-Chief and when he encounters that personage in the lobby of the hotel at Aixles-Bains, he familiarly inquires how things are at the Simplex. Instead of ordering the Buck to the brig, General Pershing replies very pleasantly that business is good and that if Pat will drop around he will put him to work in the Foundry."

Sergeant Barnes proved to be a most charming fellow and completely won the hearts of his audience through his inimitable stories. He was born just as much for the part of the "Buck" as was Joseph Jefferson for "Rip Van Winkle" or Frank Bacon for "Lightnin'."

As for "General Pershing" Kingwill, a good photograph in full regimentals published herewith, shows how well he looked the part.



## ALLEN BARNETT



Allen Barnett

Allen Barnett was born February 19, 1860, in Boone County, Indiana, near Danville. He was the second son of James Pleasant and Mary Ann Barnett.

He was educated in a school four miles north of Danville, known as the Quebec school; he also received one year of education in the Central Normal College in Danville, Indiana, where he took up a business course.

He moved with his parents to Neodesha, Kansas, in 1882, where he spent four years, then he returned to Indiana and two years later he went back to Neodesha, Kansas, and took up a homestead which was in 1887. Repeated crop failures forced him to abandon the claim. He then went to Cripple Creek, Colorado, and prospected for gold and silver until the beginning of the Spanish-American War.

As a volunteer he joined the First Colorado Regiment and was assigned to Company E. With this company he sailed for the Philippines to join the other companies of the regiment that sailed previously.

After the war he returned to San Francisco, where he was mustered out of the army and receiving his discharge, he returned to Kansas, where on April 15, 1899, he was married to Miss Viola Higgins of Neodesha, Kansas. To this union were born one son, Kyle, now of Hammond, Indiana; three daughters, Mrs. Erma Moffett and Miss Georgia Barnett, both of Hammond, and Mrs. Pauline Heck of Toledo, Ohio. He had four brothers: William

A., Charles J., Oliver P., and Harry C., and one sister, Mrs. Mattie F. Flynn.

Comrade Barnett and his family came to Hammond from Neodesha, Kansas, in 1927. In April, 1931, his wife, Viola Barnett, passed away, and after her death, he became very active in all Veteran's affairs. He was a member of the Spanish-American War Veterans of Hammond, but was more active in the Larsen Post.

He held several offices in the Post and served on many committees, and was a member of the famous degree team of the Post. He attended almost all District and State Conventions and many National Conventions. He passed away in Hines Hospital at Hines, Illinois, February 20th, 1940, at the age of eighty years and one day. Internment was in Neodesha Cemetery, Neodesha, Kansas.

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## HENRY W. CARR



Henry W. Carr

Henry W. Carr was born September 8, 1898, at Wickcliffe, Indiana; he attended the public schools at Monticello, Indiana. While attending high school there, he decided to join the Indiana National Guards, and served with them on the Mexican border in 1916 in the 3rd Indiana Regiment Band.

In France he served with the 67th Field Artillery, Brigade Headquarters Company, in



the World War of 1917 and 1918. He served with this unit in France, Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany, and returned to the United States in April, 1919, and was discharged at Camp Sherman, Ohio, May 12, 1919.

Comrade Carr was married to Miss Lillian Waterstradt of Danville, Illinois, in July, 1919, and then moved to Hammond, Indiana. To this union there were born three children: Alice B. Carr, Richard W. Carr and James C. Carr, all of whom belong to the various branches of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 802.

Comrade Carr became a member of this Post in 1934 and was elected a Trustee in 1937, and served until 1938, at which time he was elected Junior Vice-Commander for 1938-1939.

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## EDWARD N. MAGINOT



Edward N. Maginot

Edward N. Maginot was born February 22, 1890, at Cedar Lake, Indiana. He was the son of Michael and Thresa Maginot, now residing in Hammond, Indiana. He was educated in the schools of Hammond, and after he had finished school, he went into the feed business in Hammond.

Comrade Maginot enlisted in the army on June 25, 1918, and went to Camp Sherman, Ohio, was there about six weeks and then was sent to Camp Mills on Long Island. From there

he sailed for Liverpool, England, then to South Hampton, crossing the channel to Le Havre, France, he entered a camp further into the interior for further training.

He was then transferred to Company C, 363rd Infantry, 91st Division, and soon saw active service in the Meuse-Argonne Sector; from there they were transferred to Belgium, again seeing plenty of active service, where he was wounded on November 1, 1918, by a piece of shrapnel in his shoulder.

He was sent first to the Evacuation Hospital, then to the General Hospital No. 22, in France, then to Base Hospital No. 29, in London, England, and he left this hospital for the U. S. A. about December 25, 1918, and entered the Greenhut Hospital in New York City and from there he was sent to Camp Dodge, Iowa, where he received his discharge February 10, 1919.

He then came back to Hammond, Indiana, where he went back into the feed and coal business and is still in the same business located at 488 Fayette street, and his present home address is 5420 Oakley street.

On April the 5th, 1940, a motion was made by Walter Klamm, seconded by Claude Jones, that the Post present Comrade Maginot with a continuous membership badge of some kind, he being the only active member that was a charter member of the Post. The committee selected a V. F. W. ring and was presented to him at the installation party the same month of that year at the Masonic Temple. He was also awarded a Purple Heart for distinguished service in the presence of the enemy.

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## GEORGE S. PARKER

George S. Parker was born in Rockford, Illinois, May 3, 1894; he was the son of George W. and Margaret B. Parker. He was reared on





George S. Parker

a farm in Ogle County, Illinois, and attended school in DeKalb County.

He entered the army October 15, 1915, and served until August 21, 1921. He served in active combat against Pancho Villa's forces March 29, 1916, at Guerro, Mexico, this being known as the Mexican Punitive Expedition, which started on March 16, 1916, and ended February 5, 1917. He received his training at Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis, Missouri, and also at Fort Bliss in Texas.

He served at Jefferson Barracks from October, 1915, to January, 1916; 7th Cavalry, January, 1916, to September, 1919; 15th Military Police September, 1919, to January, 1920; Quartermasters Corps, January, 1920, to August, 1921.

His serial number was R-1006054 and his social security number is 312-09-6095.

He was married to Miss Mary M. Farris, the daughter of Elmer L. and Dora Farris of Paris, Illinois, in June, 1928, and to this union was born one daughter, Alice Mae Parker. Comrade Parker was employed by the Ford Motor Company at Hegewisch, Illinois, from 1924 to 1930 and since that date he worked for the Hammond Brass Company and also the Youngtown Sheet and Tube Company, and at the present time, he is employed at the Youngstown Steel Door Company as a millwright worker. He lives at 36 Clinton street in Hammond, Indiana, at the present time.

## PAUL A. BOBINSKY



Paul A. Bobinsky

Paul A. Bobinsky was born April 19, 1891, and was the son of Anthony and Johanna Bobinsky. He was married to Miss Constance Janowski, who is the daughter of John and Marcyanna Janowski. To this union was born one son, Ronald, and one daughter, Johanna. His wife, Mrs. Constance Bobinsky, was the President of the Ladies Auxiliary for the years of 1941-1942.

Comrade Bobinsky enlisted Feb. 14, 1918, from Hammond, Indiana, and was sent to Camp Dix, New Jersey. He served with Company C, 303rd Field Signal Battalion. He served in two engagements: the St. Mihiel and the Meuse-Argonne and Argonne Forest Sectors. He sailed for Liverpool, England, May 26, 1918, and returned to the United States May 12, 1919. His serial number was 175954 and his social security number is 312-10-6125. His present address is 4724 Ash avenue in Hammond.

Comrade Bobinsky kept a very interesting diary and I am going to quote some very interesting notations he made from day to day, and I can only give you a few of them as he has enough to fill this book.

May 17, 1918—Departed on the British "Tolosa" with 12 other transports. Embarkation point, Brooklyn, New York. We passed the Statue of Liberty at 7:07 A. M.

June 3, 1918—Burial at sea of someone who died on one of the ships in our convoy.



June 7, 1918—Landed at Liverpool, England, after passing to the north of Ireland. Traveled one whole day within sight of Ireland and Scotland.

June 9, 1918—Arrived at Dover, England, at 7:00 A. M. My company billeted at a British rest camp. Day was spent in sight-seeing.

June 10, 1918—Crossed the English Channel for Calais, France, arriving there at 1:20 P. M.

June 26, 1918—Received the first mail from the U. S.

September 12, 1918—Arrived on the St. Mihiel sector and there heard the first artillery barrage. It was French railroad artillery bombarding Metz.

October 8, 1918—Arrived in the Argonne Forest.

November 1, 1918, 5:30 A. M.—133rd Artillery Brigade, 78th Division, put over a big artillery barrage. Fritzies beat a retreat and our artillery hot after them. This is the beginning of the drive toward Sedan.

November 11, 1918—Heard news of Germany signing the Armistice as we passed thru St. Menchould.

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### JEROME A. DALTON

Jerome A. Dalton was born April 4, 1895, at Markle, Indiana. He was the son of John and Ellen Dalton, their present address being Hammond, Indiana.

He enlisted in the navy on November 14, 1917, and was sent to Municipal Pier, now known as Navy Pier in Chicago, for training. On May 1, 1918, he was sent to New York and there went into the Transport Service aboard the F. J. Luckenbach; he was a Yeoman first class.



Jerome A. Dalton

He crossed the ocean six times, each convoy having about 17 vessels. He entered the ports of St. Nazaire, Brest and Marseilles, and operated out of the ports of Boston and New York. Jerry, as everyone knows him, knows the life of a seaman—knows the dangers our troops are going through, going over that vast stretch of water. Yes, he has had many thrilling experiences, but far too modest to enter them all here. He was discharged on May 29, 1919, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and returned to his home in Hammond, Indiana.

On September 8, 1923, he was married to Sarah McLaughlin, who was the daughter of Philip and Mary McLaughlin of Hammond. To this union there were born 5 children: 3 sons, Jerome Phillip, Thomas Edward, and John Francis; 2 daughters, Mary Ellen and Sarah Ann.

As soon as he returned from the navy he went to work for the Inland Steel Company in Indiana Harbor and was with them for 9 years. On May 1, 1924, he entered the Embalming School at Indianapolis, Indiana, and graduated there the following year.

In April, 1925, he entered the funeral profession at 5809 Calumet avenue in Hammond, and in 1939 he moved to his present location at 727 Carroll street. He is a member of the Lake County Funeral Directors Association, also State and National; he is also a member of the Indiana Embalmers Association. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and has received his 4th degree in that organization. He is a member of the Elks, the American Legion Post No. 16 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Edward H. Larsen Post No. 802.



## ALFRED UHLE



Alfred Uhle

Alfred Uhle was born June 14, 1892, in Chicago, Illinois, and was the son of Jacob and Emma Uhle of Chicago. He was educated in the schools in Chicago, and was a photographer before he entered the service.

He enlisted August 16, 1917, from Chicago, and was sent to General Camp No. 1, Williamsbridge, New York, in the Medical Corp. After being there about two weeks, they embarked for Halifax, Nova Scotia, for further training; from there they went to Liverpool, England, arriving there October 6, 1917, then to Folkstone on the Channel, then to Boulogne, France, arriving there October 7, 1917.

They established Base Hospital No. 12 at Amiens, France. He was an X-ray operator in the hospital unit, and he now has many interesting pictures in his vast collection which he took while he was in France. On account of being confined so much in the limits of the hospital, he was one of the volunteers to carry wounded from the front lines, serving most of the time with the British at Dunkirk, Viny Ridge and Ypres.

He was in the hospital from January 25, 1918, to October 10, 1918, with trench fever. He was first in the hospital at Etaples, France, then to Calais; the Germans bombed the hospital there and he was transferred to Dover, England, then London, then to Dartford in an American hospital there. He was discharged from this hospital about October 10, 1918, and was sent to a rest camp at Winchester, England. He met his brother, Rudolph, there

who was stationed in the U. S. Naval Air Force at Eastleigh, a few miles from this rest camp.

He arrived in Le Havre, France, Nov. 1, 1918, then to St. Agney Noyer, then to Paris and was in Paris when the Armistice was signed; he was in Paris about eight days. He was then ordered back to Base Hospital No. 12 at Amiens, and there they gave him a 30-day sick leave to go to Nice, France, arriving there December 31, 1918; he returned to Base No. 12 Feb. 4, 1919; from there he was sent to Brittany, then to Brest, where he embarked on the Leviathan on March 26, 1919, arriving at Hoboken April 2, then to Camp Upton, Long Island, N. Y. The Historian, John W. Blume, was on the same boat with him and did not know it until the present time.

From Camp Upton, Comrade Uhle was sent to Camp Grant at Rockford, Illinois, and discharged there April 22, 1919, and returned to Chicago. On May 8, 1919, he came to Hammond, Indiana, and started in the same business, Photographic Studio, and is still in the same business at 5451 Hohman avenue. He has done all of the photographic work for the members of this Post for this book, and the wide experience that he has had in this work, makes him second to none in this business.

He was married to Miss Hazel Fowler, who was the daughter of Ray and Manie Fowler of Hammond, February 24, 1926, and to this union was born one son, Gordon K., and one daughter, Charlotte J., both having their birthdays on April 29; Gordon being 14 on April 29, 1944, and Charlotte, 12. Comrade Uhle's serial number while in the service was 7,167.

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## FATHER AND SON

Everett M. Todd was born June 14, 1894, at Tuscola, Illinois, and was the son of Rufus and Lillie Todd. The year of 1895 they moved to Lakefield, Minnesota; in 1900 they moved to Crowley, Louisiana, and in 1905, they moved back to Tuscola, Illinois. In 1919 his parents moved to Hammond, Indiana. He re-





Everett M. Todd

ceived most of his education in the schools at Tuscola, Illinois.

In 1910 he left school and entered a plumbing shop and learned the plumbing and heating trade. In 1914, up to 1917, he took a roving spell and traveled over most of the United States. In June, 1917, he enlisted in the United States Army at Spokane, Washington, and entered the service at Fort Sam Wright of that place. From there he was sent to the 6th Field Artillery at Douglas, Arizona. The 6th Division was comprised of the 6th, 10th and 11th Field Artilleries. Comrade Todd was assigned to the 11th, in which he served for 15 months.

When the 6th Division was sent overseas, Everett was in the Hospital at El Paso, Texas, and as soon as he was released from the hospital, he was sent to Camp Merritt, New Jersey, where he was transferred to the 7th Division and sent to France in September, 1918.

His trip across the ocean was made on the U. S. S. Lenape, an old banana boat 90 feet wide and 110 feet long, and mind you, it was a mighty bumpy 13 days crossing that stretch of water. He came back on the Leviathan and made it back in six days of smooth riding.

He served in the Veterinary detachment

and was sent to the front. As soon as they arrived at the front, they changed over to Motorized Artillery and the Veterinarian Detachment was given special duties. They remained on the Moselle River and the Toul Sector until June, 1919, when they were sent back to the United States, and he was discharged at Camp Grant at Rockford, Illinois, June 30th, 1919.

In 1921 he was married to Miss Eda Paradzick in Los Angeles, California; she was the daughter of Otto and Martha Paradzick of Los Angeles. To this union there was born a son, Eugene Walter, and a daughter, Eda Irene.

His present trade is plumbing and is employed at the American Steel Foundries; his Social Security No. is 346-01-0479, his serial number in the war was 1039877, and his present address is 514 Mulberry street, Hammond, Indiana. He served five years as Secretary of the Plumbers' Local Union No. 307 of Hammond.

## EUGENE TODD



Eugene Todd

Eugene Todd was born February 1, 1922 in Hammond, Indiana, and graduated from



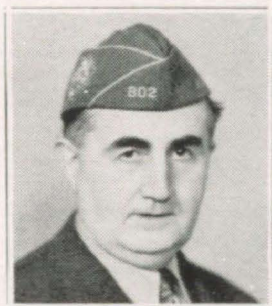
Hammond High School in 1940. He is the son of Everett M. and Eda Todd who reside at the present time at 514 Mulberry street, Hammond, Indiana. He has one sister Eda Irene who is a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Edward H. Larsen Post No. 802.

Just before he was inducted into the service he was attending Tri State College in Angola, Indiana. He was inducted December 1, 1942 and was sent to Camp Perry, Ohio, then to Camp Crowder, Missouri for his basic training, then he was sent to Midland Radio School in Kansas City, Missouri and graduated May 15, 1943, and was sent to New Orleans in a replacement center. Shortly after he was sent there he was sent to his Port of Embarkation which was New York and arrived in England, October 16, 1943. His serial number is 3553-6033 and is in the 9th Air Force Command.

Eugene was the first Commander of the Sons of the Veterans of Foreign Wars after it was organized by the Larsen Post.

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## JOHN K. FISCHER



John K. Fischer

Born at Kenosha, Wisconsin, on July 15, 1892. He was the son of Mathew and Katherine Fischer of Kenosha, Wis. At the age of 14 started to work in Simmons bed factory, having received a sixth grade schooling. Left home as a man of the world at the age of sixteen, but after a few months, found out it was rather nice to put his feet back under the table at home. Having attained the age of eighteen, he again left home to go into the

harvest fields in Canada and the Dakotas. He returned home as what was considered a rather prosperous young man, having more than two hundred dollars in his pockets.

At the age of twenty-one he enlisted in the U. S. Army. Stationed in the Philippines in 1913, he had the distinction of serving under our present Chief of Staff, General George C. Marshall, who at that time was First Lt. in Company F of the Thirteenth Infantry.

Returned to the U. S. in 1915 in time to see World's Fair at San Francisco.

Re-enlisting in the army shortly after the outbreak of the war, he was sent to France in July, 1918. While on active duty in September of the same year he was gassed, but he returned to the front a short time later, and was serving in the Argonne sector at the time of the Armistice.

He was sent home aboard a hospital ship on Christmas day 1918, and was honorably discharged on February first of the following year.

Returning to work at the iron foundry in Kenosha, he was unable to resume work as a moulder due to his gassed condition, but was employed as a timekeeper, shipping clerk and finally as labor foreman.

Leaving the foundry in 1922, he attended the Wisconsin School of Mines as a vocational student and here earned quite a reputation as a football player.

He married Nora K. Huss in 1923, who was the daughter of Max and Honora Huss of Darlington, Wis.

Two years later he left the school to go to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he became chief operator at the Tulsa plant of the Ozark Chemical Company.

Arriving in Hammond during the depression of '29, he obtained employment on the construction of the Stauffer Chemical Plant, where he is now employed as plant manager.

In 1931 he joined the Edward H. Larsen Post 802 of the V. F. W. and has served it in



the office of Trustee for the past seven years.

He has a family of four children. Three sons, John, Max and Robert and a daughter. Geneva.

Comrade Fischer has served as Trustee of the Larsen Post continuously since 1937, and is still serving as Trustee. It was he who fought the stormy battles on the floor when too much money was being spent, and to him goes the greater portion of the credit for the home the Post now owns, with not a dollar against it, and better than \$14,000.00 in the treasury, this being a record for anyone to be proud of.

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### FATHER AND SON

Harry Wikel, who was born October 20, 1900 in Peru, Indiana, and was educated in the schools of that city. He was the son of William and Martha Wikel, and has one brother now living in Chicago, Illinois.

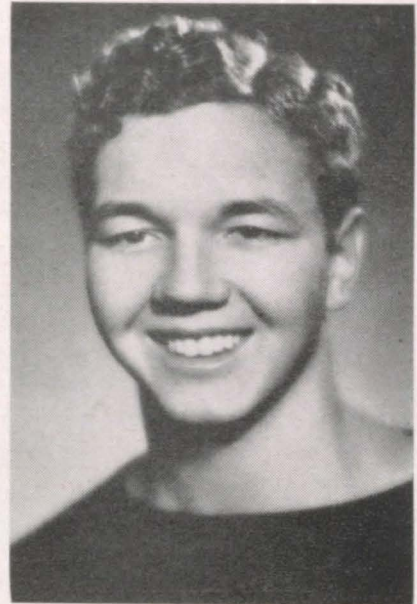
Harry enlisted in the United States Army, June 11, 1918, and was sent to Jefferson Bar-



Harry Wikel

racks near St. Louis, Missouri. He sailed from the United States October 3, 1918, and landed

in Brest, France on October 20th, and immediately proceeded to a Camp at Garches about eight miles from Paris, France. There he was placed in the 16th Battalion, Anti Air Craft Bn. and was there until the Armistice was signed.



William Wikel

He returned to the United States from Brest, France on Feb. 28, 1919 and landed in New York, March 11, and went to Camp Merritt, New Jersey, from there he was transferred to Columbus Barracks at Columbus, Ohio, where he received his discharge on April 10, 1919.

Immediately after he was discharged he returned to Chicago where he had been working prior to his entry into the service. In 1921 he was married to Miss Florence Thatcher, the daughter of Oliver and Emma Thatcher of Danville, Illinois and to this union were born two sons: Emmerson who is still at home and William who is now serving in the United States Army.

William is 20 years old and enlisted December 7, 1942. He was born October 3, 1923 at Danville, Illinois. And was educated in the schools in Chicago and Hammond, Indiana. He is stationed at Neah Bay, Washington in

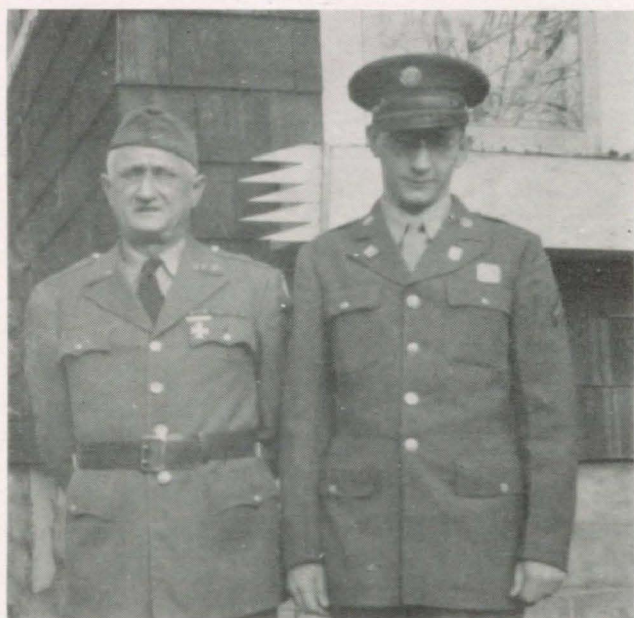


the 748th Military Police Company. He spent a very pleasant furlough with his parents November 4, 1943 for a period of 15 days.

Harry Wikel is a Past Master of Pyramid Lodge A. F. & A. M. in Chicago, Hammond Chapter No. 117 Royal Arch Masons, Hammond Council No. 90 Royal and Select Masters, Hammond Commandery No. 41 Knight Templars, Orak Shrine, and a Patron of the Pyramid Chapter Eastern Star. At the present time he is custodian of the Masonic Temple in Hammond. Mrs. Wikel is a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary No. 802, Veterans of Foreign Wars in Hammond, Indiana. Also Past Matron, Eastern Star Pyramid Lodge No. 600, Chicago, Illinois.

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## FATHER AND SON



William Krokoski, Sr.

William Krokoski, Jr.

William Krokoski, Sr. was born January 11, 1897 in Ashley Penn. He is the son of Joseph and Mary Krokoski of Luzerne, Penn.

His first enlistment in the United States Army was August 29, 1908 at Fort Slocum,

New York, he enlisted for a period of three years. He was discharged at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, September 11, 1911. He was a private in the 17th Infantry, Company C.

He again enlisted October 14, 1913 at Columbus Barracks at Columbus, Ohio, and was placed in the Aero Squadron Air Service, United States Army to serve for a period of seven years. He sailed for England September 18, 1917 and returned to the United States July 19, 1919 and was honorably discharged June 4, 1920 from the Regular Army Reserve, his serial number was 25,176.

He was married January 13, 1918 in Oxford, England to Miss Cecile Whiting, who was the daughter of William J. and Mary Whiting, to this union were born one son William C. who is now serving in the United States Army Air Corps in Madison, Wisconsin. William, Sr., is quite a poet and you will find some very good numbers in this book.

He has been a very active member of this Post, has served on many committees, attended many conventions, is a member of the Degree team, and is Chaplain of the Post at the present time.

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William C. Krokoski, Jr., was born in Oxford, England, November 7, 1919, and is the son of William and Cecile Krokoski. William, Sr. returned to the United States on July 19, 1919 and Mrs. Krokoski and William, Jr. returned a year later. William, Jr. was educated in Washington, Lafayette and Tech high school in Hammond, Indiana.

He was inducted in the United States Army Air Corps November 14, 1943. He is in the 45th Academic Squadron in Truax Field at Madison, Wisconsin. He holds the rating of a Corporal and his serial number is 35566178.



## FATHER, SON, DAUGHTER

Edward Hitzeman was born in Dyer, Indiana, May 26, 1896. He entered the United States Army October 4, 1917, and was sent to Camp Taylor, Kentucky; he was there about a month and was transferred to Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and remained there until he was sent to France.



Edwin Hitzeman  
World War No. 1

He sailed for France October 6, 1918, and was in Company D, 152nd Infantry, 30th Division. His serial number while in the service was 1,568,274. He returned to the United States April 13, 1919, and was honorably discharged from the army on April 24, 1919.



Sgt. Raymond E. Hitzeman  
World War No. 2

Edwin was the son of Fred and Sophia Hitzeman of Dyer, Indiana. When he received his discharge, he returned to his home and

spent several days with his parents; he then went to Andover, South Dakota, where he met Miss Clara Keup, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Keup of Andover. They were married May 26, 1920, and to this union were born one son, Raymond, now serving in World War No. 2, and one daughter, Lillian. His wife, Clara, passed away in September, 1922. Edwin Hitzeman passed away on November 12, 1943 at Edward Hines Hospital.

Sgt. Raymond E. Hitzeman was born December 12, 1920, in Morristown, South Dakota, and is the son of Edwin and Clara Hitzeman. At the age of two he moved with his father and sister to Hammond, Indiana.

He graduated from the LaFayette school in Hammond in 1934, and the Hammond high school in June, 1938. In October, 1938, he joined the CCC and spent 6 months in Utah. After he returned to Hammond he was employed as a grocery clerk for awhile and then decided he would like to be a "Printer's Devil" in a print shop.

In December, 1939, he was elected Commander of the Sons of the V. F. W. in the Larsen Post. He served as Commander until he entered the service. His father, Edwin, is a member of 802 and his sister, Lillian, is a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary of 802.

On September 10, 1940, he was sworn in the United States Air Corps, and spent about two months at Chanute Field, Illinois. On November 7, 1940, he was transferred to Scott Field, Illinois, where he attended radio classes in the Air Corps Technical School. When he had completed this course he was promoted to instructor in the radio school which was on July 3, 1941.

On December 20, 1941, he was made a Corporal and on this same date he was married to Evaline Brindley of Centralia, Illinois. On July 1, 1942, he was made a Sergeant and on August 1, 1942, he was made a Staff Sergeant, and on August 21, 1942, he was transferred to the 654th Technical School Squadron (SP), Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



## LILLIAN C. HITZEMAN

Lillian C. Hitzeman, Sgt. 1/C was born September 19, 1922, in Andover, South Dakota. Shortly after her birth they moved to Hammond, Indiana, where she was educated in the schools there. She graduated from Lafayette school in 1936 and Hammond high school in 1940.



Lillian C. Hitzeman

Lillian enlisted in the Navy Feb. 16, 1943 and entered active service March 25 in Hunters College in New York City. She received a rating there of Seaman 2/C. In April, 1943, she was transferred to the Naval Air technical training center at Memphis, Tenn. She graduated there September 25, 1943 as Seaman 1/C aviation machinist mate.

Immediately after her graduation at Memphis, she received a 7 day leave to come home. On October 6, she reported to the Livermore Naval Air Station at Livermore, California.

On October 26, 1943, she made her first parachute jump, and since then she has made 5 more jumps. The lowest jump she made at about 1,500 feet and the highest at about 10,000 feet.

She was called to the bedside of her father who was in Hines Hospital at Hines, Illinois, and he passed away on November 12, 1943. She made this trip by plane and also returned to Livermore by plane.

## OLE MATSON



Ole Matson

Ole Matson was born in Bergen, Norway, March 2, 1895; he was the son of Oline and Andrew Matson of Bergen, Norway.

He enlisted in the United States Army in Superior, Wisconsin, July 6, 1917, and went to Camp McArthur at Waco, Texas, and from there he went to Camp Upton on Long Island, N. Y.

He sailed on December 17, 1917, and landed in Liverpool, England, and was sent to Camp Winchester, where they stayed for three days and then went to Brest, France.

He was in the Headquarters Troop of the 32nd Division, known as the Wisconsin Division. He served in Alsace May 18-July 21, 1918; Aisne-Marne, July 29-August 7; Oise-Aisne, August 26-September 6; Meuse-Argonne, September 26-November 11; Army of Occupation, December 13-April 20, 1919.

He received a Divisional Citation, G. D. 41 Headquarters, 32nd Division, April 30, 1919.

He sailed from Brest for the States April 20, 1919, on the George Washington and landed at Hoboken, N. J., and went from there to Camp Upton, Long Island, and from there he went to Camp Grant, Illinois, and was discharged May 20, 1919.

He returned to the home of his parents in Superior, Wisconsin, and went to work for



the Soo Line Ore Docks in Superior; he worked there for 9 years.

He was married to Mabel Irene Kindel, daughter of Eva May and Emil Kindel of Superior, Wisconsin. He moved to Hammond in 1932, and at present is Custodian of the Veterans of Foreign Wars club rooms at 536 Sibley street. His serial number in the army was 259,001 and his present address is 666 Douglas avenue, Hammond, Indiana. He became a member of the Larsen Post in 1942.

Headquarters Thirty-Second Division,  
American Expeditionary Forces.  
Rengsdorf, Germany, 20 Apr. 1919.  
General Orders No. 41.

*The Division Commander takes pleasure in citing in orders the following members of command for the acts of gallantry in action indicated after their names;*

Pvt. OLE MATSON, Hq. Tp, 32nd Division

*"For bravery in the Meuse-Argonne offensive. For several days and nights Private Matson acted as mounted courier, riding along shell swept trails and through gassed woods and valleys to deliver important messages. Although suffering from the effects of gas he did not seek relief until the officer he was serving with was wounded."*

*By command of Major General Lassiter;  
R. M. Beck, Jr.,  
Chief of Staff,*

*Official*  
EDWARD D. ARNOLD,  
Major, A.G.D., U.S.A.  
Division Adjutant

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#### CHARLES S. COTTRELL



Charles S. Cottrell

Charles S. Cottrell was born July 3, 1876 in Remington, Indiana. He was the son of

Commodore P. and Carolina Cottrell. He was educated in the public schools in Lafayette, Indiana.

He enlisted in the United States Army from LaFayette, Indiana, July 19, 1899 and embarked from San Francisco, California and went direct to Manila in the Philippine Islands, arriving there December, 1899. His headquarters was in Bambao in the Mindanao Island.

He returned to the States and was discharged from the Army in June, 1901 in San Francisco, California. He returned to his home in LaFayette where he spent several years.

He was married to Miss Emma Paseka, December 25, 1901. She was the daughter of Frank and Anna Paseka of Kansas City, Missouri. He has two step children, one son Sidney Cottrell of Detroit, Michigan and one daughter, Mrs. Dora Mueller of Indianapolis, Indiana. He is a member of the Edward H. Larsen Post and Mrs. Cottrell is a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary.

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#### VICTOR SMITH



Victor Smith

Victor Smith, born March 18, 1894 in Chicago, Illinois, and educated in the schools there. He entered the United States Army from Chicago, October 5, 1917, and was sent to Camp Grant at Rockford, Illinois.

He was soon promoted to a Corporal in



Company M, 342nd Infantry, 86th Division. From there he was transferred to Company A, 132nd Infantry, 33rd Division at Camp Logan, Texas. From there he was sent to Camp Upton on Long Island, New York, and sailed for France May 24, 1918 on the U. S. S. Mount Vernon, formerly the Crown Princess Cecil a German vessel interned in this country before we entered the war. This vessel was torpedoed on one of its return trips, but was not sunk.

They arrived in Brest, France, May 30, 1918 (Memorial Day). They remained in Brest several days and were attached to the British Expeditionary Forces and served with the Australian troops on the Vaden Line from June 23 to August 23, 1918, Amiens Sector, July 4, 1918, Verdun Sector, September 8 to September 25, 1918, Argonne-Meuse Offensive, September 26 to October 20, 1918.

From there they went to the Army of Occupation arriving in Luxemburg December 7 and remained there until April 12, 1919, when they sailed for Hoboken on the U. S. S. Mount Vernon again — back to Camp Upton and then to Camp Grant where he received his discharge on May 30, 1919 (Memorial Day). His serial number was 2060364.

He returned to Chicago and went to work for the Transo Envelope Company, and is still employed by this same company. His social security number is 344-05-9979.

He was married to Miss Virginia Colberg, who is the daughter of Frank and Agnes Colberg. To this union was born a daughter, Alene Virginia Smith. At the present time they reside in Calumet City, Illinois.

He became a member of the Edward H. Larsen Post in 1931. In 1933 he organized the Joseph S. Lietzan Post No. 2871, he was the first commander of that Post and a few years later he was re-elected Commander of this Post again. He also served as Quartermaster and also Adjutant of this Post. His wife was President of the Ladies' Auxiliary of this Post for the years of 1940-1941.

He returned to the Larsen Post in 1941 and served the Post as Chaplain. He was appointed

as District inspector twice and elected Dept. Chaplain at the State Encampment at Anderson, Indiana in 1942, and was also a member of the ritual degree team. He was a member of the Hammond Lodge No. 485 B. P. O. Elks and also a member of Victory Post No. 168, American Legion.

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## FATHER MOTHER AND SON

Claude M. Stokes was born in Fairmont, Indiana, Feb. 11, 1893. He enlisted in the United States Army April 16, 1917, at Springfield, Illinois. He was sent to Belleville, Illinois, for about ten months, and then was transferred to Houston, Texas.



Claude M. Stokes

He sailed for Liverpool, England, May 27, 1918, and served in the ordinance department, 123rd Field Artillery, 33rd Division. It took fourteen days to make this crossing, they spent a few days in England and then crossed the English Channel for France, where he soon entered the front lines in the St. Mihiel offensive September 12-16, 1918. Muese-Argonne offensive September 26 to October 11.

He made the hike into Germany and served in the Army of Occupation from Jan. 1, 1919, to April 12 the same year. He arrived back in the United States, May 24, 1919, and was discharged from Camp Grant, June 8, 1919. His serial number was 1378416.

He returned to Chicago Heights, Illinois, and resumed his regular line of work as an



iron worker. He was married to Miss Golda M. Roush, August 28, 1919, and to this union were born one son, Claude, Jr., and two daughters, Marjorie and Wandalee.

He moved to Hammond, Indiana, October 13, 1924, and was employed by the Northern Indiana Public Service Company, and at the present time, he is still employed by this company. Claude says they are a good company to work for. His social security number is 306-10-3681.

Comrade Stokes became a member of the Edward H. Larsen Post in July, 1939, and has been a very active member ever since. He was Trustee of the Post for three years, a member of the Degree Team, and also District Degree Team Chairman. Stokes was one of the Trustees who was active in creating a home fund, and was still Trustee when he saw this fund buy the present V. F. W. Home at 536 Sibley street. The Trustees, who served during this period, should be proud of their accomplishment.



Claude Stokes

Claude M. Stokes, Jr. was born November 4, 1920 in Chicago Heights, Illinois, and was educated in the Hammond schools. He is the son of Claude and Golda Stokes who reside at the present time at 411 Highland street, Hammond, Indiana.

Claude, Jr. was inducted into the United States Army November 23, 1942 and was sent to Camp Atterbury, Indiana. On June 19, 1943 he was sent to Nashville, Tenn. for

maneuvers. On September 14 he was transferred to Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky and is still there. He holds the rating of Private first class and is in the 330th Infantry Anti Tank Company.



Mrs. Golda Stokes

Mrs. Golda Stokes was born September 23, 1900 at Gilman, Illinois and educated in the schools there. She is the daughter of Albert and Sarah Roush of Dalton, Illinois.

She was married to Claude M. Stokes, August 28, 1919 in Chicago, Illinois and lived in Chicago Heights until 1924, then moved to Hammond, Indiana, and in 1931 they moved to Hobart, Indiana and back to Hammond in 1936 and still live here.

To this union were born one son, Claude, Jr. who is now serving in the United States Army — two daughters: Wandalee who is still at home and Mrs. Marjorie Million who also lives in Hammond, one grandchild Dian Million.

Mrs. Stokes leads the entire Ladies' Auxiliary in the sale of the first volume of history books of the Larsen Post. Second in number was Mrs. Jennie Fritz and third was Mrs. Thomas McGreevy.



## FATHER AND SON



**LOUIS B. BARTON**  
World War No. 1

Louis B. Barton was born May 29, 1896, in Mayville, New York. He was the son of Byron and Emma Barton of Mayville.

He enlisted in the United States Army February 25, 1918, at Westfield, N. Y., and went to Camp Devons, Ayer, Mass., then to Camp Dix, Long Island, N. Y. He embarked for Liverpool, England, March 29, 1918, and arrived on April 16th; from there they went to Dover by train, crossed the Channel and landed in Calais, France.

He served with the 308th Ambulance Company, 302nd Sanitary Train, 77th Division. He arrived on the front lines in Baccarat Sector, June 21 and remained there until August 4th, Vesle Sector, August 11-18; Oise-Aisne offensive, August 18-September 16; Meuse Argonne, September 26-November 11, 1918.

He sailed from Brest, France, April 20, 1919, and landed in New York May 6th, and went to Camp Upton, Long Island, N. Y., discharged there May 12, 1919.

He enlisted in the New York Constabulary February 1, 1921, and served five months; came to Hammond, Indiana, in July, 1921, and was employed as a salesman for the Bunnell Motor Company.

He was married to Miss Roverta Pugh, who was the daughter of Delbert and Ruth Pugh of Hammond, March 1, 1922. To this union were born one son, Warren B., who is now

serving in the Army Air Corps, and one daughter, Ruth, who is a student of the Hammond High School, and also a student of the Beverly Hills Art Class in Chicago, Illinois.

Comrade Barton is employed at the Tublar Alloy Steel Corp. as an investigator in the plant at Gary, Indiana. He is a member of the following Masonic bodies: Garfield Lodge No. 569, F. & A. M.; Hammond Chapter No. 117, Scottish Rite, Valley of South Bend, Indiana, and is a Charter Member of the Edward H. Larsen Post.



**WARREN B. BARTON**  
World War No. 2

Warren B. Barton was born January 24, 1923, in Hammond, Indiana. The first school he attended was the Kenwood school, and graduated from Hammond High School in 1942, and then took up a short course in the Hammond Technical school for the government.

He is the son of Louis and Roverta Barton of Hammond and has lived at 6626 Meadow Lane avenue for the past 18 years. He is a member of the DeMolay and also the First Presbyterian Church in Hammond. He also played in the Hammond High School Band.

He enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps February 21, 1943, and is now at Shepherd Field, Wichita Falls, Texas.

Before entering the service he was employed by General American Transportation Corp. as an inspector and was with them until he entered the service.



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## *Hammond V. F. W. Post Burns Mortgage*

From Hammond Times, February 23, 1942

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State and District Officers of the V. F. W. were guests of the Edward H. Larsen Post No. 802, of Hammond, Indiana, at yesterday's party, celebrating Washington's birthday, and the last payment on the Post's home at 536 Sibley street.

The mortgage goes up in smoke in the picture above and the firemen are, left to right: Trustee John K. Fischer, Post Commander William F. Boyd, Past Commander Walter Klamm and Past Quartermaster Frank Tripinski.

Guests at the party, which were concluded

with a dance last night, included William Lacey of Fort Wayne, Indiana, State Department Commander; and Charles Dickerson of Gary, Indiana, District Commander.

A highlight of the afternoon program was a talk by Mrs. E. Shumacher, a nurse, and President of the Auxiliary of the V. F. W., Post 2432, at Honolulu. She was attending church in Honolulu when the Japs attacked the city and Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7th. She told how she turned the church into a hospital and helped care for the wounded.

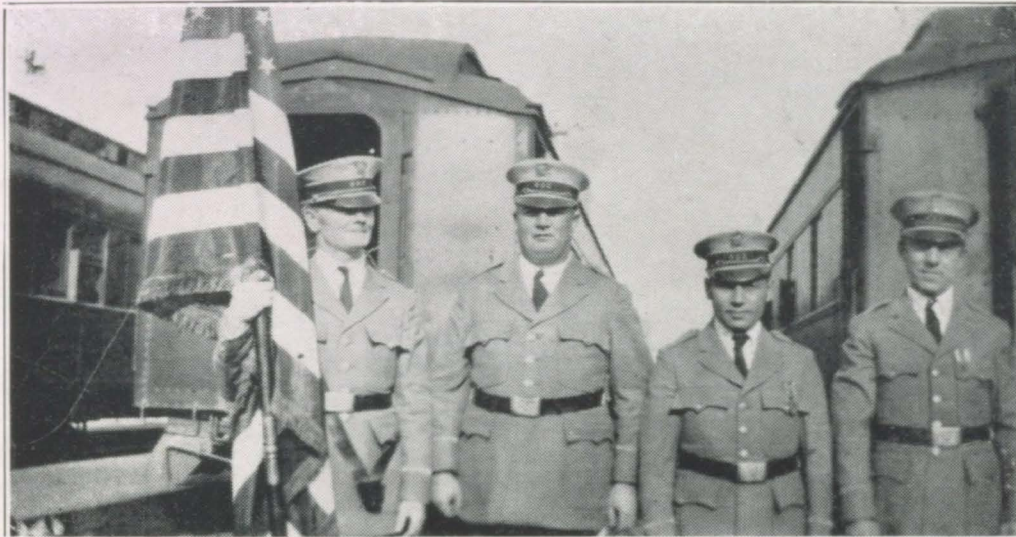


## *Pictures Taken in 1927 - George Hopper was Commander of Post*

You will note the snappy uniforms that the boys are wearing. It was the year that General Pershing was in Indianapolis on June 30th and viewed the giant parade from a stand at the northwest corner of Meridian and Michigan streets. It was Pershing who wanted to know who that snappy group was that was passing the reviewing stand and he was told that it was the V. F. W. Group from Ham-

mond, Indiana. Edward Larsen Post No. 802.

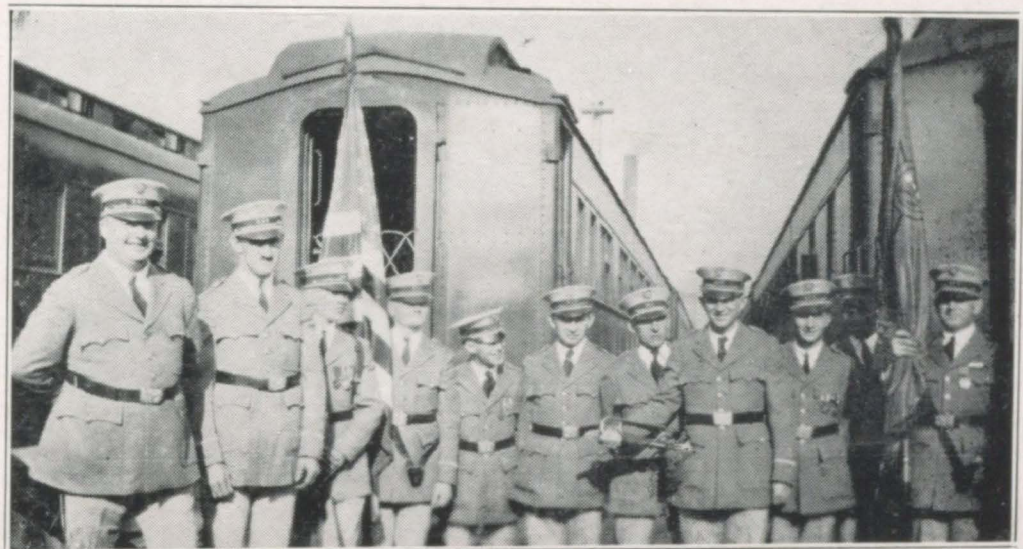
When Calvin Coolidge, who was then President of the United States, dedicated Wicker Park and the snappy Larsen Post boys showed up, he too, wanted to know who that snappy group of boys were and was told that it was the V. F. W. boys from the Larsen Post in Hammond.



Left to right:  
Francis P. Dugan  
Tom O'Donnell  
Isadore Levin  
Joe Russell

All three of these  
pictures were taken  
in Indianapolis, Ind.  
June 30, 1927.

Left to right:  
Tom O'Donnell  
Thomas J. Kemp  
Walter Klamm  
Francis P. Dugan  
George L. Koontz  
Edward N. Maginot  
Everett V. Reginer  
George H. Jolly  
Earl R. Barnes  
Train Porter  
Walter Kubiak







Left to right:  
 Walter Klammer  
 Francis P. Dugan  
 Margaret Weis  
 Marie Fenstermaker  
 Irene Weis  
 Mrs. Walter Kubiak  
 Walter Kubiak



## GAS LIQUID AND AIR

*The brainless professors of our nation,  
 Sure made a mess of our gas ration.  
 We have gas they say, we just want to save  
 your tire.  
 To visit the sick you must walk or get a cab  
 that's for hire.  
 Our soldiers home on leave must be sick, and  
 they have to see Mr. Hall,  
 Who investigates your case and says, give him  
 five gallons and that's all.*

*While the politicians get plenty, and with  
 tanks that are full,  
 Drive all over these United States throwing  
 the bull.  
 Going from town to town promising things  
 they can't fulfil and throwing mud at  
 each other.  
 But a soldier home on a few days leave gets  
 five gallons to bury his Dear dead Mother.*

—W.M. KROKOSKI  
 Chaplain, Post 802 V.F.W.



## BRINGING IN A PRISONER



First Bn., 312th Infantry Patrol, brings in prisoners found in Boulton, France. The prisoner is saluting 1st Lieut Pfeffer. Boulton-aux-Bois, November 3, 1918.

The American soldier on the extreme left is Paul A. Bobinsky, a member at the present time of the Larsen Post.

## MOVING TROOPS FROM THE ST. MIHIEL FRONT TO THE ARGONNE FOREST



The American soldier just beneath the arrow in this picture is John W. Blume, the present Historian of the Larsen Post. The picture was taken about the first of October, 1918, moving Rainbow Division troops to the Argonne Forest. Blume entered the front lines

in the Argonne on October 14, 1918, and on the 19th he was sent back to Base Hospital No. 48, at Mars, France. He was burnt with mustard and was also gassed with Phosgene Gas. He was in Base 48 when the Armistice was signed.



THIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN AT  
528 STATE STREET IN  
JANUARY, 1936



Earl J. Snyder was Commander. In one of the regular meetings Harry D. Galiher made a motion on the floor that John W. Blume be appointed chairman of a membership drive, the motion was seconded and it carrier.

John W. Blume appointed Harry D. Galiher and Walter Klamm as captains in this drive, each choosing the men they wanted to help them in the drive for new members. The Post had been very low in membership and it was the greatest drive they ever made. Every member worked, and worked hard.

The night this picture was taken 67 new

members were taken into the Post, and the drive continued until over a hundred members were taken into the Post in this drive. That was the beginning of the upward swing of the Larsen Post. Now they own their own home at 536 Sibley street and have about \$12,000 in cash and Government Bonds, and they are going stronger now than ever.

This Post has the Champion Degree Team in the State of Indiana and has held it since 1936 and are still holding that title. It is known all over the State as being the best V. F. W. Post in the State.

THIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN IN THE CLUB ROOM AT 5619 CALUMET  
AVENUE IN 1939





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## *The Edward H. Larsen Ritual Team*



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In June, 1936, the Post organized a Ritual team which was very active in all parts of the district. Having been called upon to take part in the Institution of new Posts at LaPorte and Gary and was also very active in cooperating with all Posts of the district. The team also went to Illinois towns in the initiation ceremonies of new recruits for the years 1936-37-38.

At this time they were Champions of the district and were awarded the District Trophy by Department Commander Joseph Kraft. In the year 1938 they won the State Title over Indianapolis at the Department Encampment at Kokomo, the following year, 1939, at Evansville and 1940 at Lafayette and 1941 at Michigan City and the team is still very active, and promise to hold the title again for

1943. You can count on this group to carry on.

At Kokomo Encampment, 1938: Commander Curtis Bundy, Sr. V. John K. Fischer, Jr. V. C. James Dugan, Chaplain John W. Blume, O. D. Walter Klamme, Sentry Charles A. Klaubo, Deceased Soldier Fritz Nelson, Q. M. Allen Barnett, Adj. Noah L. Berger, Guard Edward M. Pinney, Wounded Soldier Henry W. Carr.

At Evansville Encampment, 1939: Commander Curtis Bundy, Sr. V. C. John K. Fischer, Jr. V. James Dugan, Chaplain John W. Blume, O. D. Walter Klamme, Sentry Charles A. Klaubo, Deceased Soldier Noah L. Berger, Q. M. Allen Barnett, Adj. Frank Tripinski, Guard Edward M. Pinney, Wounded Soldier Henry W. Carr.



Top row, left to right: John K. Fischer, Henry W. Carr, Richard B. Judd, Raymond Willison, Milton Morris, Claude M. Stokes, James J. Dugan.

Bottom row, left to right: Owen Knerr, Walter Klamme, Noah L. Berger, Frank Tripinski, Edward M. Pinney.



A GROUP OF THE LADIES' AUXILIARY  
OF EDWARD H. LARSEN POST

*This picture was taken in 1942*



Left to right, upper row: Gertrude Buckle, Tassie Boyd, Golda Stokes, Kathryn Larsen, Luella Snyder, Clara Buck, Lillian Carr, Virginia Smith and Cecile Krokoski.

Left to right, lower row: Viola Jones, Dorothy Sauer, Anna Mulvey (Gold Star Mother), Constance Bobinsky and Sue Klamm.

DEDICATED

*To the Memory of*

E. M. PINNEY and ED. HITZEMAN

*Two of our comrades are now at rest  
In doing their duties they gave their best  
We are all very sorry they are gone  
But I know they want us to carry-on*

*The work they done we all can see  
One as past Commander the other as Trustee  
They helped to give our Post a good name  
Let all of us strive to do the same.*

—WM. KROKOSKI  
Chaplain, Post 802 V.F.W.



# *Officers of the Ladies' Auxiliary of Edward H. Larsen Post 1943-1944*



Lower front row, left to right: Ruth Casey, Chaplin, Jennie Fritz, Conductress, Lillian Knerr, Junior Vice President, Gertrude Buckle, President, Julia Pagett, Senior Vice President, Tassie-Boyd, Trustee, Nora Fischer, Pianist.

Standing, left to right: Verna Hansen, Color Bearer, Lillian Carr, Color Bearer, Bessie Brough, Treasurer, Viola Jones, Patriotic Instructress, Goldie Stokes, Secretary, Ethel Willison, Color Bearer, Virginia Smith, Color Bearer.

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## DEDICATED *To the Memory of* CHARLES ALBERT MCKINNEY

*Just a week ago today  
Another Comrade passed away  
Comrade McKinney was his name  
Came from Alabama to win fortune and fame  
While walking beside the road near the prairie  
He was hit by a car and died in the infirmary  
Post 802 their duties did perform  
And his brother came and took his body  
Home.*

—WM. KROKOSKI  
Chaplain, Post 802 V.F.W.



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## GOLD STAR MOTHERS

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### KATHERINE M. LARSEN



Katherine M. Larsen

Katherine M. Larsen was born in Ireland, November 2, 1864, married in Chicago to Peter M. Larsen in 1888, and to this union there were born six children, all being born in Chicago. The family moved to Hammond in 1906.

John J. was a World War Veteran and Edward H. Larsen, for whom the Post was named, served his country in France in 1918. In the battle of Chateau Thierry, Edward was gassed, and due to exposure, he became ill and was taken to a field hospital where he passed away, October 16, 1918.

Mrs. Katherine Larsen passed away March 21, 1933. She was a Charter member of the Ladies Auxiliary of The Edward H. Larsen Post and was accorded full military honors at the funeral. Mr. Larsen is still hale and hearty, living at 6136 Garfield avenue in Hammond.

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### MRS. ANNA MULVEY

Mrs. Anna Mulvey was born in Ireland and came to the United States in 1885, settling in Connecticut, and later in Chicago. There she met Frank Mulvey, who was also a native of Ireland, and they were married. Mr. Mulvey was employed by the Grasselli Chemical Company of East Chicago in 1912.

They moved from Chicago to Hammond, where they bought a home at 530 Indiana avenue — Mrs. Mulvey is still living there. Mr. Mulvey died in September, 1932.



Mrs. Anna Mulvey

Mr. and Mrs. Mulvey adopted a son when he was 22 months old and named him Lawrence F. Mulvey. He was reared in Hammond and at the age of 18, on his birthday, September 7, 1917, he enlisted in the United States Army. He was in Company C, 166th Regiment, 42nd Division, known as the Rainbow Division. He died in action August 1, 1918; his body was returned to Hammond and buried in St. Joseph Cemetery.

Mrs. Mulvey is still enjoying good health, is a member of St. Joseph Church, spends a great deal of time visiting friends, quilts and rolls bandages at St. Margaret's Hospital. She gets a great deal of pleasure in having her friends visit her. She is also a Charter Member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Larsen Post.

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### MRS. MARGARET L. BENT

Mrs. Margaret L. Bent was born in County Caven, Ireland, May 24, 1869. She came to the United States in 1888, settling in the State of New York; in 1893 she came to Chicago, Illinois.

She was married to Peter Bent and to this



union were born nine children: Peter, John, Mary, Elizabeth, Francis, Gerald, Alice, George and Catherine. Gerald died in infancy and Francis lost his life in the World War of 1917-1918.

Francis was employed at the Standard Oil Company at Whiting, Indiana, and when war was declared by the United States, he enlisted. He was with Company B, 131st Infantry (known as Chicago's Old Dandy First). He



Mrs. Margaret L. Bent

was wounded at St. Mihiel, France, and later returned to the Army of Occupation in Germany and died while serving his country there.

His remains were returned to the United States, being the first to be returned here for burial. His Comrades, and the public in general, paid the greatest tribute to him than any soldier every buried in Lake County. Services were held from the City Hall in East Chicago, then to St. Mary's Church, then to Calvary Cemetery in Gary, Indiana, for burial. Peter H. Bent also served his country with the 311th Field Signal Battalion, Black Hawk Division of Chicago.

Mrs. Peter Bent's two grandsons, serving in the present war, are Earl J. Lundwall of Hammond, an aerial gunner, and Corporal Robert Lane of Cleveland, Ohio, somewhere in the Pacific in active service.

Mrs. Bent died April 11, 1942, and was buried in Calvary Cemetery in Gary, Indiana.

## CATHERINE PHILLIPS JAMES



Catherine Phillips James

Catherine Phillips James was born October 25, 1860, at Cardiff, Wales. She came to the United States November 6, 1881, and settled in Chicago, Illinois. She was married to Aaron E. James, February 11, 1882. They moved to Hammond in April, 1890. Mr. James died October 27, 1916, and Mother James died November 26, 1940. Mother James was a Charter Member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Edward H. Larsen Post and was very active in all of their affairs.

Her son, James, was born in Hammond, June 19, 1899. He made his home with his sister, Mrs. Robert Blaemire, ever since he was seven years old and until he entered the United States Army in 1917. He died October 16, 1918, of wounds received in action. His body was returned to Hammond and buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

There were 10 children in the James family and there are four still living.

Mrs. Anna Mulvey, the only living Gold Star Mother in the Edward H. Larsen Post, is still a very active member and a Charter Member of this organization. It was pioneers like Mrs. Mulvey that guided the destiny of this organization when it was in its infancy. The Post and the Auxiliary are proud of her, and honor her for the many fine things she has done for them.



# SHELLS FELL SO FAST HE COULDN'T EVEN EAT HARDTACK, SOLDIER SAYS

(St. Louis Globe-Democrat, St. Louis, Mo.  
Nov. 10, 1918)

Some of the difficulties encountered by an American soldier in eating meals under fire, described in a letter from John W. Blume of the One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Infantry to his brother M. W. Blume of New Franklin, Mo. Blume wrote from a hospital where he was suffering from burns caused by mustard gas. The letters follows:

"I am going to tell you how we enjoyed eating our supper one evening about ten days ago. There were four of us in a shell hole, and we had two cans of corned beef and some hardtack. We opened one can of beef and got out some hardtack, saving the rest for breakfast.

"We divided everything equally and had just started to eat from our mess kits when a high explosive shell landed near the pit and threw quantities of dirt over everything and spoiled our eats.

"Although we were pretty hungry, we decided to wait until they quit shelling, and then open up the breakfast. In about twenty minutes we thought the firing had ceased and we tackled the other can, and our hardtack. We had it all divided and were preparing to eat, when 'boom,' we were buried under dirt to our necks, and still no eats.

"We just had to give up eating for the time and waited till dark. Then some of us crawled out and got the rations off several of our boys who had been killed. This we were allowed to eat in peace.

"Another night we were out on patrol duty, twelve of us. We were looking for machine-gun nests and listening for any chance remark that might be dropped by the enemy. Another boy and I understood some German and we advanced farther into No Man's Land. One of our boys coughed and the Germans began firing flares and shooting over us with machine guns. We flattened out in every gully we could find, and it seemed hours before we could move an inch. Then the flares went out and our lieutenant ordered us back into the trench."

ROBERT F. MEISSNER



Robert F. Meissner

Robert F. Meissner was born November 9, 1911 in Whiting, Indiana. He was educated in the Whiting grade and high school. He is the son of Edward and Anna Meissner of Whiting, Indiana. He is also a brother of our present Commander, Werner P. Meissner.

He was employed a short time by the Standard Oil Company of Whiting, and in 1933 he went to work for the Union Tank Car Company as a riveter and caulker, and was with them up until the time he entered the service of the United States Navy.

He enlisted June 3, 1942 and left for active duty July 10, he was sent to Norfolk, Virginia for his boot training, and then was transferred to the 16th U. S. Naval Construction Battalion. His rating was a ship-fitter second class Petty Officer. In June, 1943 he received a promotion to that of First Class Petty Officer.

He left San Diego, California for overseas duty September 29, 1942, and is now stationed in the Hawaiian Islands, he is also a member of the Edward H. Larsen Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and was accepted December 4, 1942.



## Pvts. Sapyta and Lanhorn are Prisoners of Germans



Lanhorn



Sapyta

Hammond Times, April 27, 1943

Pvt. John Robert Sapyta, 26, and Lemon A. Lanhorn, 24, both of Hammond, are reported safe following their capture by Gen. Erwin Rommel's Africa korps in combat in Tunisia.

Sapyta, in a letter which went through the German censorship system, informed his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Sapyta, 906 Conkey street, that "I hope to be home by Christmas of 1944 or sooner."

The German prisoner said he escaped injury in the north Africa battle and his letter allayed the fears of his parents, who had previously been notified that Sapyta was missing in action since Feb. 17.

In his communication he asked for candy, cigarets and razor blades, having lost a supply of the latter during desert fighting.

Sapyta was employed as an iron construction worker before his army induction two years ago. He attended Maywood school here.

A brother, Pvt. Stanley Sapyta, who was inducted three weeks ago, has been transferred to the army air base at Greensboro, N. C. for basic training. Sapyta is a former Hammond Tech basketball player.

Notification that Lanhorn was taken prisoner by the Nazis was received by his mother Mrs. Florence Lanhorn, and his sister Mrs. Jesse Ellison, with whom he formerly lived at 4528 Ash avenue.

The Hammond soldier entered service on Oct. 17, 1941, and was one of the first Americans in the expeditionary force to arrive in north Africa.

## Cpl. Palka Overseas

Hammond Times, April 27, 1943

With about two months of military service to his credit, Cpl. Stanley Palka, 23, of Hammond, has now reached the rank of corporal and is stationed with his army unit in Puerto Rico, according to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Palka, 1108 Cleveland Avenue.



Palka

Before he left the United States, the Hammond soldier was stationed at Fort McClelland, Ala. A graduate of Hammond Technical high school, he was employed in the construction department of the Northern Indiana Public Service Company prior to induction into the army.

He reports that he gets the Hammond Times and reads every bit of it.

## Webster Gets Service Bars

Hammond Times, April 27, 1943

With only six months navy service to his credit, Eugene Webster of Whiting, a fireman first class, has seen plenty of action in the Atlantic and African campaigns. For his work with the navy, has been given Atlantic and African service bars.



Webster

Webster's wife Mary and his step-son, Edward Wagner, 16, lives at 2264 Indianapolis boulevard in Whiting. His step-daughter, Mrs. Steve Magy, lives in San Francisco.

Prior to his induction into the navy six months ago, Webster was employed at the Standard Oil company's refinery. Shortly before he left the United States, his wife visited him in New York City.



## BUDDIES THROUGH TOUGH FIGHTING



Hammond Times, April 28, 1943

Left to right, Pvt. Ernest M. Vander Tuuk, Pvt. Edward C. Nelson and Pfc. Robert Herrman.

Three Lake county homes were made brighter recently with the news that Pvt. Ernest M. Vander Tuuk of Highland, Pvt. Edward C. Nelson of Crown Point, and Robert Herrman of Dyer were still alive and well after seeing action on the Tunisian battle front.

All three men, Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vander Tuuk learned in a letter from their son, are prisoners in a camp in Germany, having been moved there recently after previously remaining in Italy as prisoners of the Nazi government.

The three buddies received their basic army training together at Camp Wheeler, Ga., and sent overseas together in February of 1942.

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### Seat Meissner as VFW Chief; Dedicate Books

Hammond Times, May 3, 1943

New officers of the Edward H. Larsen and Post No. 802, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and its auxiliary were installed and the 126-page war history book compiled by John W. Blume, post historian, was dedicated yesterday afternoon in Odd Fellows Hall.

Adolph Starr of Lafayette, who was commander of the post in 1928, installed the post officers, headed by Werner P. Meissner, commander, while Mrs. Margaret Snowden, of Gary, district auxiliary president, inducted

the auxiliary officers headed by Mrs. Lawrence Buckle, president.

### *Presentation to Howard*

James A. Howard, librarian for the Hammond Public libraries, accepted copies of the war history book presented for use in the libraries, declaring they will prove invaluable historical data. A copy of the volume was presented to Rex L. Hidy of the Hammond Times, and copies will be presented to John P. Flanagan, VFW liason officer of Edward Hines Hospital; Charles Gordon Beck, manager of the hospital and its library.



# *Install Officers and Dedicate Historical Book*

Hammond Times, April 29, 1943.

Members of Veterans of Foreign Wars posts in Indiana's first district and Illinois will attend ceremonies in Hammond Sunday when new officers of the Edward H. Larsen VFW post 802, are installed and the 126-page war history book compiled by Post Historian John W. Blume is dedicated.

Adolph Starr of Lafayette, who was 1928 commander of the post, will install 1943-44 officers and Mrs. Margaret Snowden of Gary, district auxiliary president, will induct auxiliary officers at the Odd Fellows' lodge hall, 467 State street, where Starr also will preside at dedication of Blume's historical works. Following the installations and dedication, those in attendance will return to the VFW hall at 536 Sibley street.

Blume's data includes accounts of regional casualties and experiences of fighting men on the foreign war fronts in the present war, military and naval life of local men serving in World war II, a history of the Civil war, war with Spain, and the two World wars, national and local VFW histories, biographical sketches of Larsen post commanders who served since 1921 and charter members in auxiliary activities and Hammond civic projects. A review of the book will appear in tomorrow's editions of this newspaper.

## *Invite Families*

The post has issued invitations to families and relatives of soldiers, sailors and marines of foreign service, who are mentioned in Blume's war history, to attend Sunday's installation and book dedication. The foreign service list includes:

Joseph Bingham, Arthur R. Black, William R. Cassady, Nick Chintis, Ray C. Theil, James R. Fritz, Hubert J. Grabski, Dean Brahos, Harry Brahos, Eugene C. DeBoer, Leslie Stewart, Henry Engle, Eddie Johnson, Victor Jens, Donald Hutchings.

James E. Groat, Arthur V. Barnett, Alfred

W. Wagner, Andy Kapornyai, Joseph Juscik, Leonard J. Fiedorowicz, Lester C. Simkins, Charles R. Foreman, Raymond Royce, E. W. Todd, E. E. Johnson, E. E. Nock, William L. Wolff, Robert B. Landfald, Ronald Smith.

Robert Smith, Joseph G. Bellamy, Roger H. Mueller, Hollis Kirkeiner, Clarence E. South, Raymond E. Hitzeman, Claude H. Asbell, Albert C. Nowak, John P. Rasmussen, Claude R. Heckman, Leonard S. Kozlowski, Richard Smith, Ernest H. Gehart, Charles E. Linkewicz, Edward A. Swanson.

Stanley Flis, Frank Kocal, Sidney C. Gora, Glen, D. Yarbrough, Ralph E. Jones, Charles Mauder, Leo de St. Aubin, John A. Sirovy, William E. Ballas, Norman J. McCullough, Ernest Vander Tuuk, Edward C. Nelson, Robert Hermann, Vernon Bradowski, Leo L. Shryock.

Mike Trotsich, Frank Tall, Harry Planer, Joseph Peppiatt, Sigmund J. Zatorski, Carl M. Eaton, Warren Barton, William C. Krokoski and Marge Bomberger.

## *Meissner New Commander*

Post officers to be installed: Werner P. Meissner, commander; Paul Bobinsky, senior vice commander; Albert J. Klug, junior vice commander; Victor Smith, chaplain; Henry W. Carr, adjutant; Everett M. Todd, quartermaster; Claude Stokes, officer of the day; Blume, historian and service officer; Edwin Hitzeman, John K. Fischer and Charles A. Klaubo, trustees; Raymond Willison, sergeant major; Lee Franklin, guard and James Gammon and Gusippe Signorelli, color bearers.

Newly-elected auxiliary officers are Mrs. Lawrence Buckle, president; Mrs. Charles Pagett, senior vice president; Mrs. Owen Knerr, junior vice president; Mrs. Bessie Brough, treasurer; Mrs. John Casey chaplain; Mrs. James Fritz, conductor; Mrs. Margaret Franklin, guard, and Mrs. Henry Carr, trustee.



Hammond Times, April 29, 1943.

Seven months of action on the Pacific ocean haven't frightened George C. Lamb, an East Chicago youth with the American navy. He hopes that when he returns to the west coast after a short leave that Uncle Sam will send him to the Atlantic ocean for a crack at some German submarines.



Lamb

His right hand bandaged and suffering with a severe back ailment, Lamb two weeks ago pulled into San Diego's naval receiving station with a small destroyer that had met a Jap submarine and airplane a few days previously.

Lamb's boat went through an area jammed with Jap submarines to escort transports as far as 300 miles from Guadalcanal.

During his trip into the dangerous waters of the Pacific, Lamb served as a sight setter. His crew blasted away at a Jap sub at one time but lost it.

A Jap plane then kept circling above his destroyer dropping explosives on all sides of the ship. One of them destroyed the magazine box and Lamb was injured by flying pieces of shrapnel. The plane was hit, however, and fell into the ocean.

Lamb's navy mates rescued 26 men from a sinking boat on their way back to American waters on the west coast. Details of the sinking were not revealed but every member of the crew was reported safe.

When Lamb arrived in San Diego, he immediately was promoted in rank from third class petty officer to second class. He wears emblems on his uniform showing that he has seen action in the Pacific three times and left American waters on two other occasions.

Lamb was in a fighting mood when he arrived by airplane to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Lamb. His father is a former city alderman.

"I'm craving for more action," he said. "I just hope the navy sends me to the Atlantic when I get back."

Hammond Times, April 29, 1943.

An appeal for clothing was made in a letter sent to his mother by Pvt. George Chigas, 22, of 3907 Hemlock street, Indiana Harbor, who is a prisoner of Germany.

Pvt. Chigas' letter, written on ruled paper, is date March 18 and asks also that no more mail be sent to him at his former address in north Africa.

"Here's my first letter from Germany. I hope everyone at home is feeling as fine and in as good health as I. I know you will be worrying until you get this letter.

"I'm getting enough to eat, living in a warm barrack and medical attention if ever need be. So you see, there is nothing to worry about. One thing that I'd like to have more of is clothing. I've asked for some in postcards previous to this letter.

"You can only send them through the American Red Cross. They will instruct you about the packages.

"Tell all my friends not to send any more mail to me addressed to my old address. Do what you can on that side. So until the next letter or card, I'll be signing off. P. S. I guess this letter will go air mail."

Pvt. Chigas was inducted into the service in October, 1941, and was attached to the anti-tank division. He was among the first contingent of American soldiers sent overseas to Ireland.

From Ireland he was sent to Scotland and then to north Africa where he took part in the Allied drive of chasing Marshall Erwin Rommel's division across desert lands in the southern Tunisia campaign. It is believed that he was captured by the Nazis in the Feb. 14-20 German drive against American troops in southern Tunisia.

Before entering the service, young Chigas was employed at the Inland Steel company.





# *First World War History Off Press—Shows Heroism of Calumet Region Men*

By A. J. KOTT

Hammond Times, April 30, 1943.

Veterans of Foreign Wars of Edward H. Larsen Post 802 of Hammond — who were heroes then—have issued the first of historical volumes to immortalize the heroism of Calumet region men who are making the supreme sacrifice all over the embattled world.

The inaugural war history volume makes liberal use of magazine and Hammond Times articles to record for posterity—in red, white and blue—the World war II story of local sons, husbands and fathers in the foxholes, tanks, planes, fighting ships and bombed convoys.



John W. Blume, Author

Data for the publication was compiled by John W. Blume, post historian, who is now amassing material for the second volume of what probably will be the region's most treasured and valuable naval and military reference in the day when Calumet fighters lay down arms and freedom replaces tyranny all over the world. Blume served with the famous Rainbow division during the first World war.

The VFW publication spans a year from March 18, 1942, when Gen. Douglas MacArthur arrived in Australia to assume supreme command of United Nations forces in that theater, to March 25, 1943, when Pfc. Sigmond J. Zatorski, AAF, of Hammond, died of pneumonia as a result of valiant Guadalcanal duties in the epic struggle for Henderson field and when news was received of the loss at sea of Coastguardsman Carl M. Eaton of Hammond.

## *Enshrines Local Heroes*

The chronical enshrines other such names as Lt. John R. Van de Lester of Hammond, fallen hero in the defense of the Philippines; Signalman Joseph Bingham and Marine William R. Cassady of Hammond and Seaman Arthur R. Black of Lake Hills, who went down with the cruiser USS Houston in the Java sea struggle; Pfc. Lester C. Simkins of Hammond, marine air corps gunner, who blasted Jap planes out of the sky before he lost his life in the southwest Pacific, and Seaman Robert B. Landfald of Black Oak, naval combat victim in the Pacific theater.

From the rough, hilly front of the decisive Tunisian campaign and the steaming, treacherous Solomons and Guadalcanal jungles — New Guinea — the tropics and Australia — comes this partial list of Calumet wounded: Aerial Radioman Eddie Johnson and Pfc. Edward A. Swanson of Hammond, Sgt. Leonard J. Fiedorowicz, and Pvt. Albert R. Miller of Calumet City, Pvt. John B. Rasmussen of Lansing, Pfc. John A. Sirovy of Lowell and Lt. William E. Gallas of East Chicago.

## *List Those Missing*

Still others under arms patrol in the far corners of the earth and seven seas are listed as "missing in action": Pvt. Frank Kocal, Pfc. Leo L. Shryock, Pvt. Mike Trotsich, Jr., Sgt.



Archie Terrill, Master Sgt. John Schroeder and Pfc. Rudolph Horvatic of Hammond, Pvt. Glenn D. Yardbrough and Pfc. Norman J. McCullough of Calumet City, Pvt. Ernest Vander Tuuk of Highland, Pvt. Edward C. Nelson of Crown Point and Sgt. Leslie A. Stewart of East Chicago.

And some of the boys who were fashioning the noose with which to strangle the barbaric ambitions of Axis powers are held Jap and German prisoners: Pfc. Hubert J. Grabski, Cpl. Nick Chintis, Pfc. James E. Groat and Pvt. Sidney C. Gora of Hammond, Leonard S. Kozlowski of Calumet City and Staff Sgt. Vernon Bardowski of East Chicago, who are among a score of regional men captured in north Africa.

Blumes' 126-page collection, bound in leatherette, also embodies the heroic exploits in the air of Lt. Eugene C. De Boer of Munster, top-notch dog-fighting pilot of southwest Pacific fame, and the harrowing transport flights of Capt. Albert E. Nowak; on the sea the thrilling saga of U. S.-Jap battles from a veteran Hammond sailor, Hollis Kirkeiner, and on land the stories of Ernest E. Nock, Jr., of Hammond, buster of Nazi tanks in the chase of Rommel's ragged legions, 1st Sgt. Edward E. Johnson, injured survivor of a gallant band of Guadalcanal scrappers and Sgt. Charles Roy Foreman of Whiting, hero of Dieppe operations.

#### *First to Join VFW*

Full of photos and covering primarily foreign service, the book sketches the army, navy and marine lives of local men, home front contributions to the morale and welfare of fighting men and the father and son narratives of Edward Hitzeman of World war I and Sgt. Raymond E. Hitzeman of World war II and Louis B. Barton of the first World war and Warren Barton of the second World war—men with the same combat spirits then and now; only the clothes are different.

James R. Fritz, fireman 1st class was the first veteran of World war II foreign service to join the VFW post, which is known as a two-fisted, militant veteran fraternity with the national welfare and welfare of the veteran and his dependents as its main objective. The ex-service group now is active in post-war discussions so the boys of this war won't

have to sell apples on street corners.

#### *Tribute to Rev. Streeter*

The post's 1938-39 commander, James J. Dugan, the "fighting Irishman," is back in khaki in overseas service.

Blume's data also includes biographical treatment of Rev. George R. Streeter, Hammond's last living Civil war veteran, Larsen post charter members and commanders from Herman E. Granger, 1921 commander, to Werner P. Meissner, who will be installed as 1943 VFW chief Sunday when the book is dedicated at ceremonies at the Odd Fellows' hall.

The post was named after the World war I victim of a Chateau Thierry gas attack and shares headquarters at 536 Sibley street with its auxiliary of women, formed in 1930 with Mrs. Emma Paul as president and now operating under the guidance of Mrs. Lawrence Buckle.

The two units already have invested \$25,000 in war savings, contribute generously to the Veterans Administration facility at Hines, Ill., and the widows and orphans home at Eaton Rapids, Mich., and have garnered brilliant national and local honors for fraternal, civic and humanitarian endeavors.

#### *Schools to Get Copies*

All activities in the 25 year history of the club, including the 1923 recital presentation here of Mme. Ernestine Schuman-Heink are outlined in the historical gem. In addition, the publication lists VFW members of outstanding service on foreign soil and hostile waters, gives factual data on the war years from 1849 through 1899 when Cuba and Philippine campaigners organized the national VFW to the present advances towards Berlin, Tokyo and Rome.

Supplements in the book relate the history of the "Buddy Poppy," articles of the World war I armistice with Germany, the organization of the AEF and formation of its combat army and flag code and regulations.

The historical volumes will be put on the shelves of all Hammond public libraries after the official presentations to Chief Librarian James Howard at Sunday's dedication ceremonies at 2 p. m.



# *Make \$5000 Bond Purchase*



Hammond Times, April 30, 1943.

Left to right, Mrs. Claude Jones, president of the Veterans of Foreign Wars auxiliary No. 802, and Mrs. Lawrence Buckle, president elect, are shown with Mrs. William Boyd, defense chairman of the group, accepting a check for \$5,000 in war bonds from Miss

Mary J. Conway, treasurer of the Illinois Bell Telephone Employees South Suburban Federal Credit union No. 1424.

The \$5,000 purchase by the credit union makes a total to date of \$12,500 in war savings bonds bought by employee group.



# War Veterans Break Bread With Inductees



Hammond Times, April 30, 1943.

Calumet City reservists leaving for active military and naval duty this morning received the benefits of war experiences of four veteran Calumet City sailors, soldiers and pilots who dropped in for one of the breakfasts which the Calumet City Junior Women's club serves to all departing inductees at the Calumet City fire station before the recruits leave for induction centers.

Shown from left to right are: Pfc. Walter J. Walerowicz, home from South American service; John Jaranowski, Jr., seaman, second class; Miss Clare Winglaire who is in charge of the breakfast project; Edward Swanson of the marines, who was wounded in South

Pacific action; and William Witke, naval aviator; Leo Guza; Jack Riota, and Ervin Hudik, the latter three being among the contingent which left for basic training.

Mayor John Jaranowski, shown standing at the rear of the group, is on hand to give the boys one of his regular official sendoffs. The breakfast project was inaugurated in November to provide reservists with a warm waiting depot before they board buses. Coffee and doughnuts is purchased by the Calumet City Lions club and served under Miss Winglaire's direction. Businessmen in the city contribute cigars which are distributed to the servicemen.



# Tells of Fighting Japs

Hammond Times, April 29, 1943.

Bringing home a shrapnel wound as a reminder of the big push at Tulagi and Guadalcanal, Pvt. Edward A. Swanson, a Calumet City marine, said:

"Fighting the Japs is a job to do just like working any place else. You have a job, you are told to go forward and there is no thought of turning back."

The son of Mrs. Leota Swanson, 556 Forsythe avenue, the young marine is at home now on his first furlough since he was inducted 16 months ago.

With the first group of marines to land at Guadalcanal, Swanson spent most of the time from Aug. 7 to Nov. 4 on the island of Tulagi, where they lived in fox holes for the first month and a half.

Speaking modestly of his part in the south Pacific action, the wounded marine said that he participated in three or four raids on small bands of Japanese soldiers on Guadalcanal. During those raids, he explained, the natives were excellent guides, knowing the jungle like a book.

The raids on the Japanese, Swanson went on, lasted from three days to a week and it was during the last big push at Guadalcanal that he received a shrapnel wound during front line fighting in November.

## *In Tulagi Hospital*

Leaving Tulagi Nov. 4, he was taken to a hospital in New Caledonia, where he remained for a month and a half, and from there was sent to a New Zealand hospital. The people of New Zealand, he said, treated the American soldiers wonderfully.

"The natives of New Caledonia were good to us too," he went on, "but the French language spoken there made hospitality more difficult."

Speaking of life during the Pacific battle, Swanson said that they generally had enough food, although it was almost entirely canned rations. However, they did prepare a hot meal for them whenever possible, he added.

After a month and a half of living in fox

holes on Tulagi, the marines took time out when things got a little quieter, Swanson said, and made huts of palm leaves and grass, equipped with bunks woven from rope.

The Calumet City marine, who pointed out that he lost most of his best friends during the Pacific battles, praised the officers in charge of the Guadalcanal battles.

"We had good officers," he declared. "Many of them were rather young but they had the ability and 'gunmpion' to lead their men wherever and whenever necessary."

## *Joined to Fight*

Swanson will be at home until the middle of May when he is to report back to a navy hospital for a final check-up and further assignment to duty.

"I joined the marines to fight," he maintains, "and I am ready for action again wherever they want to send me."

After enlisting in the marines 16 months ago, the Calumet City man trained at San Diego for seven months and was sent overseas from there. He was graduated from Thornton Fractional high school and later was employed at the Hammond plant of the Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing company.

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## **In Since Sept. 1.**

Hammond Times, May 11, 1943

Sgt. Anthony Juszczak, 28, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Juszczak, 4851 Wegg avenue, East Chicago, now is stationed



Juszczak

overseas. In the army since Sept. of last year, he was employed at Youngstown Sheet and Tube company, and is a former student at the Roosevelt high school, East Chicago.

His brothers, Pvts. Eddie and Stanley, are stationed at Camp Campbell, Ky., and somewhere in England, respectively.



# *Hold Memorial Services for Bicanic a War Casualty*

Hammond Times, April 28, 1943

Memorial services were held in Whiting yesterday for Pfc. Peter Bicanic, 22, who died Feb. 8 in north Africa after being seriously wounded in action.



Bicanic

The news of his death was received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bicanic, 1934 Clay street, Hammond, in a telegram from the U.S. war department. They had been previously notified, he had been seriously wounded February 1.

A graduate of Hammond Technical High school in 1938, Bicanic was employed at the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company in East Chicago prior to his induction into the army Oct. 15, 1941. He had served overseas since January, 1942, being stationed first in Ireland.

The deceased has two brothers in the armed services, Pvt. John and Micheal, seaman first Class. In addition he is survived by parents, a brother Phillip, and four sisters, Mary, Donalda, Mrs. Helen Nickolich of Gary and Mrs. Agnes Zawadski.

Michael Bicanic, who was a member of Hamond Technical high school's 1940 state championship team, was married Saturday.

## **John Toth, Jr., Whiting Sgt., is Missing**

Hammond Times, April 27, 1943

Staff Sgt. John Toth, Jr., a gunner and assistant radio operator on a "Flying Fortress," has been reported missing in action in the European area since April 16, according to a telegram from the war department received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Toth, 1510 Fred street, Whiting.

It so happened that the day the war department telegram arrived, the Toths also received a letter from their son which he had written April 14. Saturday they received an Easter gift of roses.

Believed to be stationed somewhere in England, Sgt. Toth has been overseas for about six weeks. He enlisted in the army air force 10 months ago.

Prior to his induction into the army Toth was in the drum and bugle corps of the American Legion post No. 80 in Whiting and was a drummer with regional orchestras. He also was employed at the Sinclair refining company.

## **Pvt. Tropeich a Nazi Prisoner**

Hammond Times, April 28, 1943

A letter from their son, Pvt. Mike Tropeich, yesterday informed his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Tropeich, Sr., 1133 Moss street, Hammond, that he is a prisoner of the Germans.

The letter passed by the German censor, adds that he was captured Feb. 17 in Africa and arrived in Germany March 7. An infantry man, he has been overseas since January of 1942 and was among the first troops to land in Africa.

His parents were informed earlier that he was "missing in action." Two other Hammond youths wrote their parents Monday that they were German prisoners.

Pvt. Tropeich, 26-year-old, was employed by the Junior Toy Co. prior to his entering service in October, 1941. A brother, Tech. Sgt. Joseph, shared the family joy when the letter arrived. He is currently spending a short furlough from New Orleans, La., here.



## Service Center Welcomes 1000th and 1001st Guests



Hammond Times, May 4, 1943

A five dollar check and a long distance telephone conversation with a sweetheart were rewards presented to George Chalos, seaman second class, and Sgt. Stanley Sarzyniak, respectively yesterday on their being pronounced the 1000th and 1001st visitors to Hammond's New Service Center, opened Jan. 21.

The day started out gloomily for Chalos, who was home for a "surprise" visit with parents at 937 Kenwood street, Hammond, only to discover that they were out of town. His

five-dollar consolation was donated by the Hammond Lions club.

He is shown right, accepting the check from Miss Dorothy Houston, Center assistant with an appreciative audience, left to right, of C. E. Strain, George H. Cofrin, and Michael Kovaly, all stationed at a Chicago navy School. Both Strain and Kovaly are from New Jersey; Cofrin is from Northfield, Vt.

The 1,001st visitor, Sgt. Sarzyniak, extreme right, put through a long distance call to Miss Katy Ellerbee, Zephyr Hills, Fla.

### Soltwedel Brothers Promoted

Hammond Times, May 2, 1943.

News of the promotion of their two sons now serving in the army was received recently by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Soltwedel, who lived at 161 — 169th street, Hammond, until a short time ago when they moved to Lansing.

Their son, Arthur, who is now somewhere overseas, has been promoted to the rank of staff sergeant, while his brother, Kenneth, stationed at Camp Van Dorn, Miss.,



Soltwedel

was promoted to the grade of corporal.

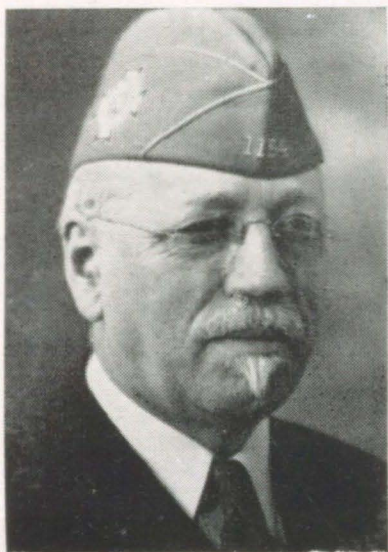
An airplane mechanic, Arthur has been overseas for about 10 months. Kenneth, who is in the field artillery branch of the army, has been in Mississippi since December, 1942.

Both of the young men attended Edison school in Hammond and Kenneth was later employed at the Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing company's Hammond branch.





# PRINCIPALS IN VFW INSTALLATIONS



**Starr**



**Meissner**

Hamond Times May 2, 1943

Werner P. Meissner, who was 16 when he served with the U. S. cavalry in France during the first World war, will be installed today as commander of Edward H. Larsen Post 802, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Hammond, to climax more than a score of years of ex-service activities. He filled the unexpired term of Edward M. Pinney, who resigned in July because of ill health, and was officially elected for the 1943-44 term. He and other officers will be inducted by Adolph Starr, 1928, of Lafayette, commander of the post and a retired engineer, at 2 o'clock at the Odd Fel-

lows' hall. Starr also will preside at the dedication of the VFW's war history book prepared by John W. Blume, post historian, with the ceremonies expected to be attended by the kin of regional men with foreign service in World war II. Mrs. Margaret Snowden of Gary, district auxiliary president, will install Mrs. Lawrence Buckle, new Larsen post auxiliary president, and other 1943-44 auxiliary officers. VFW members and guests will return from the Odd Fellows' hall to the post headquarters at 536 Sibley street for refreshments. Dancing and entertainment are on the program.

## HAMMOND MEN WHO HAVE MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE

Hamond Times May 2, 1943

The Hammond public library has furnished the publicity committee of the chamber of commerce with a complete list of Hammondites who have lost their lives in the present war, compiling the information from the files of The Hammond Times, according to W. F. Blackmun, chairman of the committee.

Members of the library staff have spent several hours daily carefully going through the editions of The Times from October 1940 to May 1, 1943 to gather the names of all losing their lives. The names will appear on a memorial tablet to be erected on the city hall grounds, according to Mr. Blackmun.

The list as furnished by the library is as

follows:

William F. Biesen, Machinist Mate Walter L. Brown, Staff Sgt. Max L. Bybee, Jr., Sgt. Robert Francis Garr, Pilot Officer O. O. Grove.

Sgt. Conrad Kujawa, Cpl. Charles J. Miller, Staff Sgt. Clarence J. Nelson, 2d Lt. John Sedor, Pfc. Lester C. Simpkins, Staff Sgt. Steve Sopp, Pvt. William S. Spilly.

Richard Steelman, Sgt. Steve Tall, Cpl. William M. Tucker, Pvt. Louis Tyrka, 1st Lt. John R. Van de Lester, Staff Sgt. William Van der Here, Sgt. John Whitaker, Pfc. Sigmund J. Zatorski.



**Pvt. J. O'Leary, Hammond Soldier,  
Missing in Action**

Hammond Times, May 11, 1943

In addition to the name of Pvt. John O'Leary, whose wife and family reside at 7416 Columbia Circle East, Hammond, today's list of the names of 766 U. S. soldiers missing in action released by the war department included three other district casualties.

They are Lt. Bill Wayne Carpenter, whose father is H. B. Carpenter, Gary; Pvt. Leonard King Story, whose mother, Mrs. Florence King, lives at DeMotte, and Maj. Donn C. Young, nephew of Vern U. Young, Gary.

Pvt. O'Leary was reported missing in the North African action several weeks ago. Carpenter was listed as missing in the Alaskan fighting; King and Young in African fighting.

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**Belinsky in Africa**

Hammond Times, May 11, 1943

Sgt. Frank A. Belinsky, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Belinsky, 4729 Alexander avenue, East Chicago, has been in the army for two years and now is somewhere in Africa, having arrived there about six months ago. A graduate of Washington high school, he was employed at the Inland Steel company prior to his induction. Discussing life in Africa, Belinsky wrote in a recent letter:



**Belinsky**

"As you probably know, the population here is French and Arab. The people treat us swell and they are glad to see us over here. It is a lot of fun to try to talk to them in French and I have managed to pick up a little. Oh yes, the French girls are nice, only give me an American girl any day.

"The Red Cross has a few dances for us once in awhile with a band made up of American soldiers. We also have some celebrities here from the States to entertain us. Our boys are doing a swell job and a little entertainment always helps to build up their morale. Before you know it this war will be over.

**Cpl. Pence in Africa**

Hammond Times, May 11, 1943

The 31-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Fleet Pence, 828 Carroll street, Hammond, Cpl. Harry J. Pence, is now with the Army air force in North Africa and has taken to and enjoyed the ancient sport of camel riding.

Cpl. Pence, who started his second year in the army Apr. 16, has been overseas and repairs trucks that carry fuel to the air planes.

The Hammond soldier has expressed high praise for the work being done in North Africa by the American Red



**Pence**

Cross. "They are doing wonderful work for the boys over here" he wrote his parents.

Pence and his parents came to Hammond from Chicago four years ago and he was employed at the Whiting refinery of the Standard Oil Co. prior to his induction into the army 13 months ago.

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**23 Years in Navy**

Hammond Times, May 11, 1943

Arthur Eugene Culler, 45, son of Mrs. Lydia Culler, 5553 Walter street, Hammond, has been stationed at Pearl Harbor since December 12, 1941—five days after the sneak



**Culler**

attack by the Japs, as a member of the first consignment of navy men to be sent to the Hawaiian base.

He holds the valuable position of chief master mechanic in the ship repair yards at Pearl Harbor naval base.

When Mrs. Culler visited her son shortly before his transfer to the south Pacific, it was the third time she had seen him in 23 years, the period of his service with the navy. His wife is working in an Airplane factory in San Diego, Calif.



### LT. BEN LISS KILLED IN AFRICA

Hammond Times, May 6, 1943.

The war department today notified Mrs. Pauline Liss, 4815 Homerlee avenue, East Chicago, that her son Second Lt. Ben Liss, 25, was killed in action March 28, in north Africa.

Lt. Liss, a graduate of Roosevelt high school with the class of 1935, had been overseas since January. He joined the army in March, 1942, and was sent to Luke Field, Ariz., where he graduated from the air corps school last October.

Born on Dec. 7, 1918, Lt. Liss was a crane operator at the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company before he entered the armed forces.

He has a brother, Edward, who left May 3 for induction into the army at Fort Harrison, Indianapolis. In addition to his mother, another brother, John and two sisters, Mrs. Joseph Fary, 842 — 171st street, Hammond, and Miss Stephany Liss, survive.

### MUNSTER BOY BROADCASTS FROM NAZI PRISON CAMP

Hammond Times, April 30, 1943.

A message from Morris L. Hopkins, a German prisoner of war, was received recently by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hopkins, 8433 Kraay street, Munster, from Irwin F. Bender of Oberlin, Pa., who heard the following message from a short wave station in Berlin:

"I am a prisoner of war. Best of health. Treatment fine. You may send candy in care of the Red Cross. Will write letter later. You write to all. Love, Morris."

The message was the last of 10 from American soldiers in a transit camp who will soon be sent to the American war prisoners' camp somewhere in southern Germany, according to the letter from Bender to Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins. He added:

"According to the German correspondents, this is a new camp with the best of facilities. When your loved one reaches this camp he will write to you, giving his prisoner's name, the name of his camp and the number of his barracks, all of which you must have in order to write to him."

The Munster family has two other sons, Charles and Cpl. James, in the armed services. Charles is serving in north Africa and James is attending radio school in Los Angeles, Calif.

The three Hopkins boys were employed at the Lever Brothers company before being inducted.

### JOHN PAYLO IS WAR PRISONER

Hammond Times May 9, 1943

Captured during one of the major battles with the Axis for central Tunisia, Pfc. John Paylo, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Paylo, 2833 Schrage avenue, Whiting, is a prisoner of the Germans, according to a war department statement.



Paylo

Pfc. Paylo was a member of one of the first American expeditionary forces to go overseas, being stationed before his capture in north Africa, in Ireland, Scotland and England.

A member of the intelligence division, Paylo previously has been reported "missing in action" on Feb. 17. Word of his status as war prisoner came to his parents by telegram, which added that a letter of information from the provost marshal general would follow.

### MUNSTER FAMILY GETS WORD SON IS HELD IN GERMAN PRISON CAMP

Hammond Times, May 13, 1943.

Official confirmation of a short wave report that their son, Morris L. Hopkins, was being held by the Germans as a prisoner of war received this week by Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hopkins, 8433 Kraay St., Munster, in a war department telegram which read:

"Your son is a prisoner of war of the German government. Additional news will be sent to you."

Previously, a message from Hopkins was received by his parents from Irwin F. Bender of Oberlin, Pa., who heard the following message from a short wave station in Berlin:

"I am a prisoner of war. Best of health. Treatment fine. You may send candy in care of the Red Cross. Will write letter later. You write to all. Love, Morris."

The Hopkins have two other sons, Charles and Cpl. James, in the armed service. Charles is stationed in north Africa and James is attending radio school at Los Angeles, Calif.



# Hammond Honors It's First Soldier, Sailor, Marine, World War II Dead

Hammond Times, May 16, 1943



Sgt. Robert Garr, U. S. marines, above, only 20 when he made the supreme sacrifice, was killed in Wake Island defense.

M. M. Brown, U. S. navy, killed in airplane crash.

Sgt. Conrad Kujawa, 21, U. S. army, first Hammond youth to die in service, killed in Japanese sneak raid on Pearl Harbor.

An ordinance providing for the perpetuation of the memory of the first soldier, sailor and marine from Hammond to lose their lives in World War II was signed yesterday by Mayor G. Bertram Smith.

Introduced in city council Friday night during a special session called to name a successor to Ald. Roy Sweitzer, who resigned effective as of last Wednesday, the new statute was voted through final passage and adoption.

The ordinance designates the 5700 block of Baring avenue as Kujawa block; the 1100 block of Summer street as Garr block, and 1300 block of North drive as Brown block. Sgt. Robert Garr, U. S. marine corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Garr, Sr., formerly lived at 1124 Summer street. Machinist Mate Walter L. Brown, U. S. navy, is the son of William T. Brown, 1336 North drive, while Sgt. Conrad Kujawa is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Kujawa, 5733 Baring avenue.

## *Kujawa First to Die*

Twenty-one-year-old Kujawa was the first Hammond youth to lose his life in the present conflict. The soldier hero was killed in the

sneak Japanese bombing of Hickman field at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Dec. 7, 1941. He was with the 98th coast artillery anti-aircraft division. Sgt. Kujawa had been in service two years.

Also 21, M. M. Brown was killed in a navy airplane accident at Miami, Fla., Feb. 27 of this year—the first sailor from Hammond to lose his life in this war. Enlisting in the navy in 1941, young Brown, formerly was employed at American Steel Foundries here.

## *Garr Died on Wake*

Sgt. Garr was only 20 when he made the supreme sacrifice for his country Dec. 14, 1941, during a Jap bombing of Wake Island. He was the second Hammond youth to lose his life in World War II. Young Garr, whose father is a Hammond post office employe, withdrew from Hammond high school in September, 1939, to enlist in the marine corps.

Although the ordinance provides no date for dedication ceremonies, the memory of the three gallant youths will probably be honored with the formal naming of the blocks on Memorial day.



## Peter Larsen Marks Eightieth Birthday

Hammond Times May 20, 1943

Peter Larsen, Garfield avenue, received congratulations from a host of neighbors and relatives on Tuesday, besides being guest of honor at a party arranged for the celebration of his 80th birthday by his daughter, Catherine, who entertained 12 guests at her apartment on Kenwood avenue in Chicago.

At 1 o'clock luncheon was served at a table decorated with a bouquet of pink peonies. During the informal afternoon Mr. Larsen enjoyed visiting with his relatives and close friends, who remembered him with suitable gifts.

Before his retirement, Mr. Larsen was a railroad man. He has lived in Hammond for the past 38 years and has another daughter, Jane, and two sons, Peter, Jr., and John, residing here.

## FDR SAYS RUSSIA GOT MOST OF LEASE AID

Hammond Times, May 25, 1943.

WASHINGTON — (U. P.) — President Roosevelt, reporting that lend-lease aid through April totaled \$11,102,000,000, told Congress today that more lend-lease munitions have been sent to Soviet Russia than to Great Britain and that the United States is "out-building the aggressors in every category of arms."

In transmitting a report covering lend-lease operations through April 30 last, Mr. Roosevelt asserted that arms are accumulating for offensives "that will end only in Berlin and Tokyo."

Great Britain still ranks first as the recipient of all lend-lease shipments — \$3,116,000,000 since March 11, 1941. Lend-lease shipments to the Soviet Union through April 1, 1943, totaled \$1,822,000,000, not counting "many hundreds of planes ferried by air."

Actual munitions exports to Russia — ordnance, ammunition, tanks, planes and the like — totaled \$1,041,000,000, compared with \$881,000,000 of like equipment to Great Britain.

The report promised:

1. Unconditional surrender of the Axis.
2. Allied strategy "to win . . . as quickly as possible — in Rome and Berlin and Tokyo."
3. Increased lend-lease to China with re-opening of the Burma road "among the strategic objectives of our forces."

Describing the liberation of Africa as a forerunner of the future, the president looked

## SON OF REV. BRIGGS TELLS OF ESCAPE



Briggs

Hammond Times, May 18, 1943.

LONDON—(Passed by naval censor)—A thrillpacked voyage during which his ship escaped a German U-boat pack, has ended for Ensign Frank R. Briggs of Terre Haute, Ind., officer in charge of a Navy armed guard crew aboard a U. S. merchant ship.

Ensign Briggs spent a brief leave in London. He is the son of the Rev. and Mrs. Frank R. Briggs, Sr. of Whiting. The Rev. Mr. Briggs is pastor of the Whiting Methodist church. Ensign Briggs' wife, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Briggs, and their young daughter, Ann Burnett, lives at 945 South 25th street, Terre Haute.

For Ensign Briggs, who was commissioned in the Naval Reserve about seven months ago, the North Atlantic crossing was his first. The calm of the trip was interrupted in mid-ocean when submarines attacked the convoy at night. Escort vessels and navy gunners aboard the merchantmen managed to beat off the U-boats and Briggs' ship ran the gauntlet without damage.

Ensign Briggs was teaching journalism at Westminister College, New Wilmington, Pa., when he entered the naval reserve. He previously had taught at Elgin, Ill. high school and at Indiana State with an AB degree in 1938 and won his Master's degree in 1940. For a while Ensign Briggs was a sports writer for the Terre Haute Star.

toward the coming battles for Germany and Japan and placed great importance on "the full support and the full resources of the peoples of the newly liberated areas."

The report emphasized aid sent to the Soviet Union, explaining in one portion that "although we have sent a substantial number of planes under lend-lease to the United Kingdom, much greater quantity has gone to the Soviet Union."





**Beck**

Hammond Times, May 17, 1943.

Miles W. Beck, Jr., was recently promoted to a petty officer with the United States navy where he is serving in North Africa. Beck is a graduate of Washington high school in the class of 1940 and enlisted in July 1942. He received boot training at Great Lakes and was graduated in a course in diesel engineering at the University of Illinois. He is the son of Miles W. Beck, 4031 Butternut street, Indiana Harbor, and was employed at Inland Steel before his enlistment.

#### **Friends Give Calumet City Marine Service Man's Watch**

Hammond Times, May 17, 1943

Edward Swanson, Calumet City marine who has been home on sick leave after active duty at Tulagi and Guadalcanal, tonight will take with him tangible evidence of his neighbors' best wishes when he leaves Hammond to report to San Francisco, Cal.

More than 100 friends and neighbors contributed toward the purchase of a special shock-proof, water-proof, stainless steel serviceman's watch, which Mrs. Wanda Winglaire, 677 Forsythe avenue, and Mrs. W. O. Seely, 676 Forsythe, sponsors of the community gift, today presented to Swanson before his departure.

Son of Mrs. Leota Swanson, 556 Forsythe avenue, Swanson will report at the Mere Island hospital, San Francisco, where he will be checked for complete recovery and given his next orders.

After enlisting in the marines 17 months ago, he was trained at San Diego, Cal., for seven months and was sent overseas. His recent sick leave was his first vacation from marine duties since his enlistment.

He has two brothers in service, Bertram, in the navy, and John, who left the first of April for duty with the army signal corps.

#### **Former Hammond Man is Cited for Bravery in Tunisia**

Hammond Times, May 21, 1943.

A former Hammondite, 1st Lt. Lester D. Matter, Jr., of the 601st tank destroyer battalion has been cited for gallantry in action on Jan. 16, during an attack against armed enemy in the vicinity of Fondouk, Tunisia, friends here were informed today. While supporting an attack by the French infantry on German positions, the tank destroyer gun was rendered useless by a round which jammed in the breech of the gun.

Admiring heavy artillery, mortar and machine gun fire and with complete disregard for personal safety, Lt. Matter climbed up on the hood of the half track and, by means of a rammer-staff, forced the round out of the breech of the gun. His act permitted the gun crew to resume fire on enemy positions and contributed greatly to the success of the French infantry in its assault on the hill, the citation says.

Lt. Matter and his wife lived in Hammond for about four years at 2 Ruth street before entering the service. He was employed by the General American Transportation company Chicago.

His first military station was at Fort Sill, Okla.

#### **IN A MILITARY FAMILY**

Hammond Times, May 16, 1943.



**Sgt. Vesolowski**

Hammond Times, May 17, 1943

Sgt. Charles J. Vesolowski, Jr., who is serving in the Aleutian islands, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Vesolowski both past presidents of the American Legion post and auxiliary No. 330 of Calumet City.

Sgt. Vesolowski attended St. Andrew's school in Calumet City and was graduated from Catholic Central high school and enlisted in the service Feb. 16, 1942.

His parents live at 26 — 156th place, Calumet City.



# HAMMOND HONORS SGT. KUJAWA

Hammond Times, May 31, 1943.



One of the highlights of yesterday's Memorial day observances in Hammond was the dedication of three blocks to perpetuate the memory of the first Hammond soldier, sailor and marine to die during World War II. In the above picture, Ald. Hugh D. Studabaker, Jr., who acted for Mayor G. Bertram Smith in dedicating the 3700 block of Baring avenue for Sgt. Conrad Kujawa; Pvt. John Kujawa,

19; Mrs. John Kujawa and Mr. Kujawa are shown (reading left to right). Mrs. Kujawa is wearing the Purple Heart awarded posthumously to her son. The Kujawa's have two other sons, Pvt. Joe, 26 and Patrick, 18, who leaves for army service tomorrow. Sgt. Kujawa was killed Dec. 7, 1941, in the sneak Jap attack at Pearl Harbor. He was the first Hammond soldier to fall in this conflict.

## Four Sons Serve

Hammond Times, June 9, 1943



John Victor



Alex Victor



Leonard Victor



Roy Victor

Mrs. Frances Victor, 405 — 155th place, Calumet City, is the proud mother of four sons, all in the army and two on foreign duty. The four, all of whom were employed at the Conkey plant, prior to entering service, are:

Sgt. John, 32, in an ordnance division and

stationed somewhere in the south Pacific; Cpl. Roy, 28, in the signal corps and based at Trinidad island; Pfc. Leonard, 21, also in the signal corps and in training at Drew Field, Fla., and Pvt. Alex, 30, with a reconnaissance division at Camp Chaffee, Ark.



# Tanks For Buying War Bonds To Smack The Nazi

Hammond Times, May 31, 1943.



Doing a masterful job in promoting U. S. war bond and stamp sales at the Rio theater in Hammond is an M-4 medium tank built by the Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing company's Hammond plant. Heading the line

of eager bond purchasers is Gus Jablonowski, who is shown buying a bond from Claire Fron. Stanley Lukowski, of Post 168, American Legion, Hammond, at Jablonowski's left, is in charge of the bond sales at the Rio.

## LANSING YOUTH LISTED WOUNDED

Hammond Times, June 9, 1943



J. COKENOUR

In Africa since last December as a member of a reconnaissance squadron, John D. Cokenour, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cokenour, 18231 Oakwood avenue, Lansing, was seriously wounded in action on May 5, according to a war department message received by his parents.

Pvt. Cokenour enlisted last June. Friends wishing to write should address Pvt. John D. Cokenour, 45th General Hospital, Ward 129, AP. O. 521, New York City, N. Y.



## KILLED IN THE PACIFIC

Hammond Times, May 26, 1943.

A gunner in a U. S. army bomber Cpl. Richard S. Czerwinski was killed May 7 in an airplane accident in the Pacific war area, the war department has informed his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Czerwinski, 32 — 155th street, Calumet City.

An only son, Cpl. Szerwinski has been in the Pacific for the last six months. He was employed as an electrician's helper at the Superheater's East Chicago plant prior to entering service a year and a half ago. He attended Thornton Fractional high school.

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## STALIN'S PANTRY

— Editorial —

Hammond Times, May 26, 1943

From Hot Springs, Va., where the gumshoe inter-allied food conference is going on, comes the illuminating word that Soviet Russia is not getting enough food through lend-lease and must have more groceries to win the war.

This all may be true, or not true, but Comrade Joe Stalin does not seem to be in much need of food at his house. We refer to a dispatch from Moscow containing the menu of the state banquet Premier Stalin held in honor of Joe Davies, President Roosevelt's personal envoy.

The dinner was not one which you would call wholly "dry." They served red and white wines, vodka with hot pepper and champagne. As to the menu, this is all the poor Russians could offer Davies at the dinner, which lasted four and a half hours:

Caviar, back of dried sturgeon, herring with dressing, back of sturgeon in sauce, English style roast beef, cold ham, gelatin, olives and spring salad, radishes, cucumbers and a variety of cheeses, were the opening courses. Then came wild fowl, chicken soup, consomme, Siberian salmon, snipe and fried potatoes, turkey and cauliflower. This was followed by strawberry tarts and vanilla ice cream, candy, nuts and liqueurs.

As a matter of fact, the food conference at Hot Springs, from which the reporters are barred from executive sessions by troops, is supposed to be considering what about food after the war. The Russians, however, want their food now, and if you had no more than Stalin has in his pantry you'd begin to worry about the present, too.

## CPL. WAGNER HOME FOR THIRTY DAYS

Cpl. Clarence Wagman, Jr., who has seen action with the marines at Tulagi and Guadalcanal since his last furlough a year ago, arrived at his home Thursday. He has been in a San Diego hospital recovering from tropical fever which he contracted three times in the Pacific area and will rest at home for 30 days. Among the souvenirs he brought back are a number of articles and insignia removed from the boddies of dead Japs.

Bob Wagman, who is attending torpedo-man's school after having finished his boot training at Great Lakes, is at home this weekend to visit with his brother. A third brother, John, is a first class petty officer with the navy somewhere in the Solomons since last fall. They are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wagman, 2121 Inner circle.

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## MEMORIAL SERVICES

Hammond Times, May 26, 1943

Edward H. Larson Post 802 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars will hold their memorial service at 10:30 a. m. Sunday at all cemeteries where their former members are buried. The services will be conducted by their ritual team which was three times state champion and runner-up at the national encampment last year.

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## John Sapyta Reported a German Prisoner

Hammond Times, May 28, 1943.

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Sapyta, 906 Conkey street, Hammond, have received word that their son, John, has been heard in a short wave listening post on the east coast during a German radio broadcast in which he said:

"Hello folks. I am all right and treated well. Please do not worry. Will write as soon as possible. Don't worry. Love, John."

Mrs. Sapyta said that her son has been in the army for two years and recently was reported missing in action on the North African front. The family's last letter from him was received 1½ months ago.

Another son, Stanley, is stationed at a North Carolina training base. He was a star football and basketball player at Hammond Tech prior to his induction.



## BROTHERS PROMOTED

Hammond Times, June 3, 1943



G. Manuszak



L. Manuszak

Leonard Manuszak, who is in Africa, was promoted to a corporal just recently according to word received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Manuszak, 117 — 154th place, Calumet City. Cpl. Manuszak was inducted December, 1941, and trained at Ft. Benning, Ga. He was a student at Thornton Fractional and before his induction was employed at a filling station.

Cpl. Manuszak's brother, George, who has been serving his country in Detroit, recently sent word of his promotion to sergeant. He also attended Thornton Fractional high school and was inducted September, 1942.

### IN NORTH AFRICA



Stoga

Hammond Times, June 3, 1943

Word has just been received from Sgt. Ollie J. Stoga who reports he is in North Africa and would like to hear from his friends again now that he is located. The sergeant's new address is 307 Medical company, APO 3935, care of Postmaster, New York, N. Y. He was inducted into service March 19, 1942 and previously was employed by GATX corporation in East Chicago and W. B. Conkey company, Hammond. Sgt. Stoga has a brother in the service, Raymond, a corporal at Camp Hood, Tex.

## SEPARATED FIRST TIME

Hammond Times, June 3, 1943



Chester Belko



Ollie Belko



Felix Belko



Edward Belko

Mrs. Mary Belko, 4833 Wegg avenue, East Chicago, received word from her son, Ollie, who has been in active duty with the United States marine corps somewhere in the south Pacific for the past five months, that he was promoted to sergeant.

Sgt. Ollie was the first Belko to enlist after Pearl Harbor. He left in January last year, followed by his brother Edward, who enlisted in the navy and left a month later. Now a pharmacist's mate third class, Edward is stationed at Newport, R. I. He has been awarded a service star for active duty.

More Belkos joined—the twins, Chester and Felix, enlisted in the navy and left Dec. 21 last. After their boot training at Great Lakes, Ill., and their nine-day "boot" leaves, Chester is at the end of two months of his four-month training in radio at Indianapolis and Felix was stationed at Boston, Mass., from where he was transferred to active sea duty as a gunner.

Serving in the armed forces has separated the Belko brothers for the first time in their lives. They all are graduates of Roosevelt high school in East Chicago.



## HAMMOND HERO OF PACIFIC BATTLE, CONVALESCING FROM SHRAPNEL WOUNDS



Fritz Thomas

Hammond Times, June 9, 1943

Fritz Thomas is only 21 years old, but like John Paul Jones of the Revolutionary war, the Hammond youth is already a hero of naval engagements and a battle-scarred veteran of the Pacific.

Young Thomas, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Thomas, 6139 Garfield avenue, is home convalescing from shrapnel wounds in his head, right arm and chest, which he received last March during a battle with a Jap fleet 200 miles off the Siberian coast and between the Aleutians and Japan.

Fritz, who holds the rank of seaman first class, is an expert sight setter on a five-inch gun. He is now recuperating at the home of his parents from the wounds suffered in the Aleutian battle in which an American task force inflicted a crushing defeat upon Jap ships seeking to reinforce their positions in the Aleutians.

The youth was preparing to give the command to fire when an eight-inch Jap shell landed near his gun seriously wounding him. His special helmet and ear-phones were knocked off by the concussion of the shell explosion.

Fritz will be decorated with the Order of the Purple Heart for gallantry under fire and already has been cited and given the campaign clasp of the order. He lost 23 pounds, bringing his weight down to 167 for a slender youth who stands above six feet.

Born in Hammond, Fritz enlisted in the navy Aug. 22, 1942. He attended Tech high school. He is the only son in a family of six children.

"I'm anxious to get back on the firing line," Fritz said. He plans to leave Hammond, June 15, for a southern California convalescing camp.

## 'SEA-BEE' PROMOTED OVERSEAS

Hammond Times, June 11, 1943



Hernacki

A former employe of the Inland Steel company, Indiana Harbor, Walter A. Hernacki of East Chicago was promoted to a petty officer third class.

Hernacki, a member of the "Sea-Bees," is a brother of Mrs. John Dragovich, 4859 Drummond street, East Chicago. He is stationed in the Aleutians, according to most recent reports from him.

## REDWINE IN NORTH AFRICA



F. Redwine

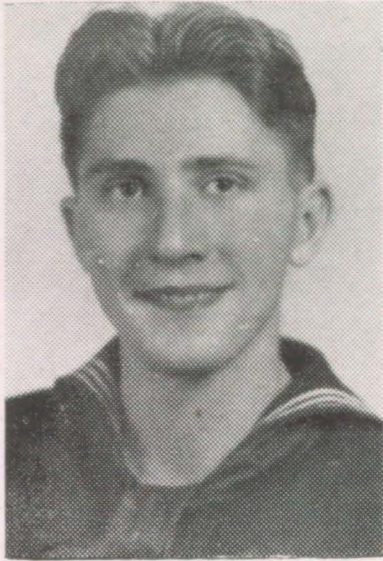
Hammond Times, June 11, 1943

Master Sgt. Freeman B. Redwine, 31, whose wife, Eleanor, is living at 5411 Ash avenue, Hammond, is stationed at north Africa, where he has seen active duty since the last of January. He is the son of Mrs. Stella Redwine, of Tulsa, Okla.

Enlisting on Aug. 13, 1940, at Charlotte, N. C., Redwine was stationed for army training at Fort Benning, Ga., Indianatown Gap, Pa., and Fort Meade, Md., from where he was transferred overseas.



## TO NAVY SCHOOL



**Walter Nowacki**

Hammond Times, June 3, 1943

Walter L. Nowacki, above, 23, son of Mrs. Frances Nowacki, 2472 Birch avenue, Hammond, has been selected for a 32-month course in engineering. A Hammond Tech graduate in the class of 1937, Nowacki joined the navy four years ago. He now holds a first-class machinist's rating and has seen service in the south Pacific and Iceland.

## WHITING SOLDIER SUFFERS WOUNDS

Hammond Times, June 6, 1943

Pfc. Carl F. Boness, Whiting serviceman, who has been serving "Uncle Sam" overseas for over a year, is recovering at an army hospital on Staten Island, N. Y., from wounds received in active service on the north African front.

Pfc. Boness is a graduate of Whiting high school and served in the army previous to the declaration of war. He was released because of the 28-year age limit and re-enlisted Jan. 25, 1942.

His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Carl Boness, 1917 Wespark avenue, Whiting.

## ARRIVES OVERSEAS

Mr. and Mrs. Al Schaller, 421 Waltham street, received a cablegram from their son, Gerald, United States naval hospital corps who is rated seaman second class informing them that he arrived overseas. Schaller was formerly associated in business with his father. His new address: Gerald Schaller, H. A. second class, U. S. N., mobile base, Hospital No. 7, FPO San Francisco, Calif.

## THREE CADLE BROTHERS SERVE



**F. C. Cadle**



**W. Cadle**



**C. Cadle**

Hammond Times, June 3, 1943

Mrs. Clara J. Cadle, 35 Russell street, Hammond, has three sons in the service and the two navy men were home recently enjoying furloughs together. The oldest boy, Frank, is a chief petty officer and has served 10 years with the navy. He has made three trips across the Pacific and has sailed Alaskan waters. He returned two months ago to Washington, D. C., from actual combat in north Africa and is at present stationed at Philadelphia, Pa., awaiting shipping orders. His brother, William, who is also a navy man, is stationed at San Francisco, Cal., as an aviation machinist's mate third class. He was just recently transferred from navy air craft instrument school in Chicago.

Mrs. Cadle's youngest son, Clifford, was stationed at Camp Lee, Va., but he has been sent out on foreign service and as yet no word has been received from him.

The three brothers went to Hammond Technical high school.

## ARRIVES IN AFRICA

Hammond Times, June 3, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cwetna, 234 — 156th place, Calumet City, have received word from their son, Pfc. Ted Cwetna, that he arrived safely in North Africa. His serial number and address are: 36369284, Battery A, 410th C. A. BN. (A.A.), A.P.O. 700, U. S. Army, care postmaster, New York, N. Y. Before entering the service he was employed at Lever Brothers company. Another son, Pvt. Ray Cwetna, has been stationed in New Guinea for the past 14 months."



## HOLDS HIGHEST NON-COM RANK

Hammond Times, June 16, 1943.



J. A. Euler

Joseph A. Euler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Euler, Calhoun street, Black Oak, was promoted on May 4 to the rank of master sergeant. He also holds the rank of regimental sergeant major, the highest position for a non-commissioned officer.

Master Sgt. Euler has been stationed in north Africa for several months.

## SEVENTH GOLD STAR ADORNS ROOSEVELT HIGH SERVICE FLAG

Hammond Times, June 16, 1943.



Lt. Ballas

Adding the seventh gold star to the service flag at Roosevelt high school, Lt. William Ballas of East Chicago was killed in action in north Africa April 29.

A telegram from the war department telling of his death was received two days ago by the lieutenant's survivors, his father, William E., and sister, Ethel, who live at 4721 Northcote avenue in the Twin Cities.

Inducted into the army in the fall of 1941, Lt. Ballas was stationed first at Camp Shelby, Miss. He was sent from there to Fort Benning, Ga., where he was graduated from officers' training school last July and sent to England almost immediately. The young East Chicago officer was with the first group of American soldiers who landed in north Africa.

## CALUMET CITY SGT. KILLED IN ACTION ON ATTU ISLAND

Hammond Times, June 17, 1943.



Sgt. Boswell

Sgt. James E. Boswell of Calumet City was killed in action in the North American area—presumably Attu Island—May 29, according to a telegram sent from the war department to his sister, Mrs. Raymond E. Shaffer, 595 Wentworth avenue, Calumet City.

Sgt. Boswell, 28, formerly resided with his sister, at 4 Highland street, Calumet City, and was employed at the Ford plant in Hegewisch prior to enlisting in the army Feb. 14, 1941.

A brother, Sgt. Bert Boswell, is in the army and now located "somewhere in north Africa."

Other survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Boswell, New Albany, Ind., and two sisters Mrs. Donald Pugh of Hammond and Mrs. Raymond Meyer of Munster.

Mrs. Shaffer, Mrs. Pugh and Mrs. Meyer will leave tonight for Louisville, Ky., where memorial services for the dead soldier will be held Sunday.

## WRITES FROM NORTH AFRICA

Hammond Times, June 16, 1943.



W. R. Watts

A locomotive fireman before enlistment in the armed forces, Cpl. William R. Watts, who has just arrived in north Africa, reports through mails to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Watts, Osborn avenue, Hammond, that he enjoyed the boat trip overseas and met several of his former co-workers at the Indiana Harbor Belt railroad.





J. Brandley

Hammond Times, June 16, 1943.

Laden with gifts from Australia and India, where he has been stationed, John "Jack" T. Brandley, first class seaman and son of Mr. and Mrs. James Copping, 2033 Superior avenue, Whiting, is spending a 15-day leave at home.

"Jack" had spent the greater part of his life in Whiting and Robertsedale before enlisting in the navy shortly after Pearl Harbor. He plans to return to his "home" base at New Orleans, La., about June 22.

#### FORMER HAMMOND MAN MISSING

Hammond Times, June 15, 1943

Lt. C. Richard Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brown of Omaha, Neb., has been missing in action in the North African area since May 19, according to word received by Mrs. Grace C. Brown, 34 Ogden street, Hammond, with whom the youth made his home when he lived in Hammond.

Brown was a P-40 pilot and flight commander in the army air force at the time he was reported missing. He had lived in Hammond three and a half years, employed as a metallurgist at the Inland Steel company immediately after Pearl Harbor. He had been stationed overseas since the first of January this year.

#### TEUTEMACHER IN AFRICA

Hammond Times, June 17, 1943.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Teutemacher received word from their son, Cyril, that he has arrived safely in north Africa. He praises the scenery in letters home, but reminds his family that two things he looks forward to the most are letters from home and friends and editions of The Hammond Times. Mail should be addressed as follows: Pfc. Cyril Teutemacher, A.S.N. 35568216, Battery A-534, C. A. Bn., AA, APO 3836, care of postmaster, New York City, N. Y.



R. M. Ross

Hammond Times, June 17, 1943

Robert Michael Ross, veteran of the Solomons' campaign, was promoted to the rank of sergeant recently. In a letter to his father, Michael Ross, of 1309 Community ct., Whiting, he states he is enjoying a short leave in a south Pacific base. Ross, a second year student at the Indiana university extension, enlisted in the marines soon after the declaration of war. After serving five months in training camp at Quantico, he was sent overseas, and served with the First marine division throughout the Solomons' campaign. He is still with his original outfit.

#### SEAMAN NOW OVER SEAS



Robert Seaman

Hammond Times, June 17, 1943.

Robert "Bob" Seaman, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gus Seaman, 4932 Elm street, Hammond, left two weeks ago for overseas duty from Norfolk, Va. Seaman, who has been in the navy for a year and three months, is rated a petty officer, third class.

A former student of Hammond Technical high school, he was employed at the W. B. Conkey company, Hammond, before entering service. He was stationed at San Diego, Calif., for his "boot" training, and later at North Island, Calif., and Memphis, Tenn.



# It's Too Bad For Japs on Attu



Barnett

Hammond Times, June 16, 1943

A Hammond soldier got tired of lying on his face in the mud—lost his temper—and it was just too bad for the Japanese.

They are trying to think of a medal suitable for pinning on the chest of Pvt. Fred M. Barnett, 30, formerly of 7014 Marshall avenue, Hammond, who lost his temper, according to Keith Wheeler, Chicago Times staff correspondent, who writes from Fish-Hook mountains, Attu island.

Barnett, whose mother resides in Independence, Mo., came to Hammond four years ago with five brothers, three of whom still reside here. One brother, James, lives at 1108 Hoffman street and is employed at the Screw Conveyor company, where Fred worked when he first came to Hammond. At the time of his induction into the army in October, 1941, Fred was a truck driver for the city of Hammond. A second brother, W. O., employed at the State line generating plant, resides at 6438 Jefferson avenue, and a third, Lawrence, a bus driver for the Shore Line, lives at 727 Michigan street.

A fourth brother died in Hammond last year and the fifth has returned to Independence, Mo., to be with their mother.

The news dispatch of Fred's lost temper and the consequent rout of the Japanese troops was the first word from their brother for more than four months, the Hammond brothers said today.

"Fred never was one to write much," W. O. Barnett declared. "He always was for action."

That is why Fred lost his temper — too much inaction on Attu.

With the men of his platoon (Second of Company A), Barnett had been trying all

afternoon to take a Jap nest on the outer flank of the Fish-Hook.

The Japs were in deep jug-shaped fox holes carved in the rock, and in a trench dug in the half-melted snow — and they wouldn't get out.

Even mortar and artillery shells couldn't blast them out for the soggy snow blanketed the explosions. And the infantry couldn't get at them. The approach from below was a sheer broad slope of snow, without enough cover to hide an undernourished gnat.

The Japs, as always, had a light machine gun or a knee mortar for every man and they had plenty of ammunition.

For an hour Company A grovelled on its face in the snow. Every time they moved, the machine guns rattled and sprayed snow in their faces or the splatting mortars showered them with it. For men scarcely ever dry and never warm in two weeks of fighting, the snow was torture. And the knife-edged wind up here at the 2,000-foot level didn't help any.

Pvt. Barnett then lost his temper and his patience and stood up.

"Hey, where the hell are you going?" his sergeant yelled.

"Up there," said Barnett, pointing.

"Get down, you damned fool!" the sergeant shouted.

"The hell with getting down. I've been on my puss in the mud for two weeks now," said Pvt. Barnett and moved off to the right.

For a moment the startled gunners in the trench above ignored him. Then the guns rattled spitefully and snow fairies danced around his feet. Barnett scrambled nimbly and ducked behind a shoulder of the slope. Company A watched from under the lids of their helmets and thought it was too bad about Barnett—and what a good guy he had been.

Barnett inched upward from boulder to boulder on the flank, and then he was level with the snow trench. He walked up to the trench from the side. He walked straight up to it, with his Garand held in front of him. Company A heard the machine gun rattle again and groaned, but looked again anyway,

Continued next page



## HAMMOND SOLDIER LOSES HIS TEMPER

and there was Barnett standing over the trench and firing into it. He backed off a few steps and tossed a grenade inside. The explosion tossed up more than just snow.

Barnett moved on to one of the rocky fox holes, approaching cat-footed, warily. He tossed in a grenade and danced away to await the explosion. He tiptoed to still another fox hole and grenaded that. Bullets spanged about him, but against all the rules of thinking he stayed on his feet and alive.

He moved toward another fox hole. "Come on, you lugs," the sergeant yelled and started up the slope. The second platoon came off its faces and started after him. The rest of Company A scrambled up and clawed through the snow toward the Jap position.

When they reached him, Barnett was using his bayonet to polish off the work begun by another grenade. There were a dozen dead Japs in the trench and in the fox holes.

In the trench a shattered heavy machine gun lay on top of the shattered bodies of its servants. There were light machine guns in the fox holes with the bodies of their operators.

Pvt. Barnett, still going strong, gave Company A his expert assistance in killing the 40 odd living Japs still in the fox holes of the strong points.

"You blank-blank-blank," the sergeant said, looking Barnett over for holes. He couldn't find any.

"I got good and sick and tired of being flat on my puss in the wet," Pvt. Barnett said.

## PROMOTED IN COAST GUARD

Hammond Times, June 14, 1943.

Robert E. Nowak coast guard, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Nowak, Calumet City, was promoted to seaman first class "somewhere overseas" according to a report received by his parents.

A graduate of Thornton Fractional High school, Calumet City, Nowak was one of the youngest enlistees from St. Andrew's parish in the community. He has been in service one year, during which time he has seen "a lot of sea duty," his parents report.

## BACK FROM SEA

Hammond Times, June 16, 1943



Robert George



C. Kobeszka

Home for their first furlough from a voyage in eastern waters of the war zone are Robert George, son of Mrs. Josephine George, of 12 — 154th place, Calumet City, and Clarence Kobeszka, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kobeszka, of 38 — 154th place, also of Calumet City. The youths hold the rank of seaman, first class. They have been in the service 11 months and have seen considerable sea duty in the war zone during that time. During their 15-day furlough home the seamen are being entertained by their families and friends. They said they enjoy the life of a sailor and are anxious to get back aboard ship. George has grown a neat set of chin whiskers plus a mustache.

## REDWINE IN NORTH AFRICA

Hammond Times, June 16, 1943



Redwine

Master Sgt. Freeman B. Redwine, 31, whose wife, Eleanor, is living at 5411 Ash avenue, Hammond, is stationed at north Africa, where he has seen active duty since the last of January. He is the son of Mrs. Stella Redwine, Tulsa, Okla.

Enlisting on Aug. 13, 1940, at Charlotte, N. C., Redwine was stationed for army training at Fort Benning, Ga., Indiantown Gap, Pa., and Fort Meade, Md., from where he was transferred overseas.



# HEADS DISTRICT AUXILIARY

Hammond Times, June 18, 1943.

When the first district of the women's auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars met recently at Trinity hall in Hammond, Mrs. Constance Bobinsky, a prominent local member of the organization, was elected president of the district. She succeeds Mrs. Margaret Snowden of Gary.

Mrs. Bobinsky is a past president of the auxiliary of VFW Post 802 of Hammond and of the auxiliary American Legion Post 330 in Calumet City and is active in volunteer work for the Red Cross and other worthwhile projects.



Mrs. Constance Bobinsky

The Indiana department's 22nd annual encampment is now in session at Terre Haute, Ind., with national officers of both the VFW and auxiliary in attendance.

Among those who will take part in the program are:

Carl J. Schoeninger of Detroit, senior vice commander in chief; Joseph M. Stack of Pittsburgh, national chief of staff; Mrs. Marie C. DeWitt of St. Paul, Minn., national auxiliary president, and Mrs. Grace Davis of Kansas City, Mo., national auxiliary secretary and treasurer. John H. Strange of Evansville, Indiana department commander, will preside.

A full program has been planned for the convention but some of the fun-making of previous years will be omitted because of the war.

## TWIN CITY YOUTH'S SHIP SUNK IN ACTION

Didn't Even Get Feet Wet!

Hammond Times, June 18, 1943.



Lumkomski

When you get a ship shot out from under you — and never even get your feet wet being rescued—you belong in a class with Raymond Lukomski of East Chicago, a first class seaman and a prime pal of Lady Luck.

Lukomski, 22-year-old veteran of four major naval engagements in the Pacific, is enjoying a 30-day leave at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lukomski, 4839 White Oak avenue. He returns to duty near the middle of next month.

The Twin City youth's job is pitching, with a 40 mm. machine gun, and he was aboard the Destroyer Aaron Ward which emerged from the Savo Island and Midway sea battles along with other American fighters. Two stars for those two clashes, plus two others for encounters with Jap navy units off Guadalcanal, adorn the lad's service stripes.

"We were just in from a patrol job and were bound for a Guadalcanal port to re-fuel," Lukomski related, in discussing the action in which the Aaron Ward was sunk.

"When about half way across the channel, we had orders to stand by for action against 98 Jap planes on their way in. Our own aircraft intercepted the flight several miles away, but three Nip bombers got through and came after the Aaron Ward.

"The first two bombs missed, but the third got the destroyer. Listing badly, the ship was being towed to land in an effort to beach her before she could sink. The tug, however, had to give up the task and I stepped from the destroyer to the tug when the order to abandon ship was given.

"Some of the other crew members had to

Continued on next page



## U. S. COAST GUARD MEMBER KILLED

Parents of Frank Ernest Sickles, 21, of 12—155th place, Calumet City, seaman first class, of the coast guard, today were notified he had been killed in action and that his body was not recovered.



Sickles

Hammond Times, June 18, 1943.

Vice Admiral R. R. Waesche, of the coast guard, does not specify in the notification telegram where young Sickles made the supreme sacrifice.

Born Jan. 8, 1922, in Lafayette, Ind., Sickles attended St. Victor's church and graduated from Thornton Fractional high school in 1940. He enlisted in the coast guard Oct. 22, 1942. Prior to entering service he was employed at the Youngstown Sheet and Tube mill.

Besides his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Sickles of 12—155th place, Calumet City, he is survived by three sisters, Mrs. Lucille Sweet, Mrs. Ella Leary, and Miss Laura Sickles, and two half brothers, Charles, in army service in California, and Roy.

### Didn't Even Get Feet Wet—

Continued from preceding page 1

swim for it, but I never even got wet."

Deeply tanned by wind and sun, the sailor said he went through all of the action in the Pacific without a scratch—although members of his own gun crew were hit in some of the engagements.

Lukomski proudly recalled the Savo Island battle in which Rear Admiral Daniel J. Callaghan was killed on the bridge of his light cruiser which engaged and sank a battleship in a Jap task force that "outnumbered us two to one."

That engagement showed us that American gunners can out-shoot anything the Japs have to offer, Lukomski said.

"It was night when we ran smack into the

middle of the enemy's task force. We let go with everything we had when we found ourselves there.

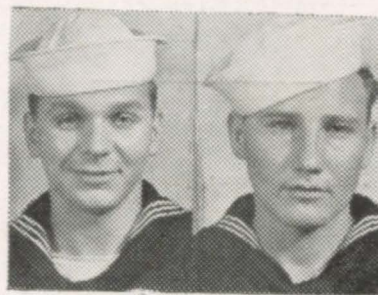
"One of the Jap cruisers turned a searchlight on us and our No. 2 gun promptly shot it out. That's accuracy, considering that it was a 5-inch gun."

Although hit and damaged in the action, the destroyer proceeded to Pearl Harbor under its own power and was re-fitted for sea duty which was to be climaxed in a channel off Guadalcanal.

As a final tribute to the Aaron Ward, Lukomski said simply:

"She's down there under water, but every gun on her is loaded."

## END SUBMARINE COURSE



R. Smith

T. Kurek

Hammond Times, June 18, 1943.

Robert Edwin Smith, electrician's mate, son of E. A. Smith, 6420 Jackson avenue, Hammond, and Chester Thomas Kurek, fireman second class, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kurek, 1204 Lake View street, Whiting, have completed basic training at the submarine school, submarine base, New London, and are waiting assignment to duty with out-going fleet of underseas fighters.

Both sailors will be entitled to wear the twin dolphin insignia of the submarine service after further experience aboard a submarine during which they must demonstrate to their commanding officer that they are fully qualified to carry out the duties of their rate.

Kurek attended George Rogers Clark high school in Hammond, taking part in football. He has been in the navy since October, 1941, and initial training at Great Lake naval training station and cruiser duty.

Smith attended Hammond Technical high, joined the navy last September and received initial training at Great Lakes also.



## IN SOUTH PACIFIC AREA



**MEJASKI**

John Mejaski, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Mejaski, Sr., 9015 Kennedy avenue, Highland, is pictured in his pith helmet, worn to keep tropical suns off his head while serving as a torpedoman, third class, with the navy in the south Pacific area.

In service nearly a year and a half, Mejaski was graduated from Griffith high school before his enlistment. His older brother, Joseph, 21, is an air cadet at Maxwell Field, Ala.

## BAGS THIRD PLANE

Hammond Times, June 20, 1943.



**WOLFE**

Lt. Fred J. Wolfe of Hammond was credited with shooting down one of the 39 enemy aircraft blasted to earth by Allied planes during Friday's record aerial battles over Sardinia and Sicily. A pilot of a P-38 Lightning, Lt. Wolfe now has bagged "at least three Axis planes," his father, Fred J. Wolfe, Sr., said.

The 23-year-old Wolfe enlisted in the air force in September of 1939. He has been in north Africa since last September and re-

cently escaped without a scratch when his plane was shot down. In Friday's battle he was in a formation of Lightnings escorting Mitchell bombers in a raid on Aranci. Eight Allied planes were lost. Wolfe's parents live at 3915 — 177th street, Hammond. Young Wolf graduated from Griffith high school.

## THREE STRIPE MARINE

Hammond Times, June 22, 1943.



**Buffington**

Proudly wearing a "No. 1" on his blouse sleeve, Sgt. Chester Buffington, of the second company of marines, is spending a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Buffington of Community street, Lansing, Illinois.

The "No. 1" indicates his company made the initial landing on Guadalcanal and was the first unit to engage the Japanese in combat.

Sgt. Buffington, member of a machine gun company, says:

"We mowed 'em down."

As proof he shows emblems from Japanese uniforms and cards with Japanese handwriting.

He also was on combat duty in the battle of Tulagi island. Suffering from malarial fever, he was sent home to rest for 30 days after being away three and a half years, eleven months of which was in overseas duty.

His brother, Pfc. Reed, is stationed at Macomb, Ill., and will come home Friday on a week-end leave.



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# War Hero 'AWOL'

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Van Tillburg

Hammond Times, June 24, 1943.

Most, soft-spoken Dick Van Tilburg of Hammond was in the first wave of boats putting into Port Loyoce, French Morocco, when the United Nations opened their North African campaign. A member of the amphibious force, regarded as the most dangerous in the navy, the 22-year-old Hammond hero has been in the thick of considerable fighting. Three times he crossed the Atlantic ocean.

Imagine his astonishment, then, while he was in the Norfolk, Va., naval hospital from injuries he received on his third voyage to learn he had been listed as AWOL for nearly two months — during the entire time of his third trip "over there." A clerical error, the navy explained, was responsible.

"I just knew Dick wasn't a coward," his proud father, Virgil Van Tilburg, 7022 Monroe avenue, Hammond, asserted, "but there was that seemingly indisputable evidence from the navy. I've written the war department and demanded that it make an immediate and public apology."

Dick, better known as "Tillie" to friends of his undergraduate days at Hammond high school, expects to return to active duty shortly.

## WHITING'S COLONEL

Hammond Times, June 23, 1943.

— Editorial —

Lake county has another colonel. He is Col. Ed. Shepherd of Whiting who was graduated from West Point, June 8, 1918. The then Lt. Shepherd was married the following day to Ruth Lesser, a teacher at the Whiting south side school.

Col. Shepherd is now somewhere in the southern Pacific. Lake county has other colonels, including John Ward Wheeler of Crown Point, whose recent assignment was on the building of the highway to Alaska, and William J. Knox, Jr., of the chemical warfare service, who hails from Hammond and East Chicago.

In this war the highest ranking officers in the Calumet region are to be credited to La Porte and Porter counties, respectively. Royal Ingersoll of La Porte is a full admiral — same as a four star general — and is commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet. Edward Marquardt of Chesterton is a rear admiral assigned to duty on the Atlantic seaboard.

Lake county in the world war had the highest ranking officer in northwestern Indiana. He was Maj. Gen. William G. Hann of Crown Point who first commanded a division and then a corps in the AEF.

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## 2 HAMMOND MEN NAZI PRISONERS

Hammond Times, June 6, 1943

Two Hammond soldiers, Pvt. Mike Tropic and Pvt. Sidney G. Gora, are included in 287 U. S. men being held as prisoners of war at Camp Stalag, 5B, Germany, the war department announced yesterday. Both men were captured in the Feb. 17 north African fighting, later listed as missing in action.

Gora is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Gora, 4331 State Line avenue, while Tropic's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Mike Tropic, Sr., 1133 Moss street.

Both Pvt. Gora and Pvt. Tropic were among the first U. S. troops to land in Africa. A graduate of Hammond Tech, Tropic entered service in October of 1941. Both men were in the infantry and had seen overseas service for several months.

Also listed as Nazi prisoners were Pfc. James V. Valentine, whose brother, Larry, lives at 2420 West 10th place, Gary, and Pvt. George Piossa, whose mother lives on R. R. 2, Gary.



## Open 'Smoke For Yanks' Drive



Hammond Times, June 24, 1943.

With five cousins in the armed forces, Dorothy Johnstone, 5, of 7138 Jackson street, was the first contributor today to The Hammond Times "Smokes for Yanks" fund campaign. She is shown, above, placing a half dollar in the envelope given her by Robert Thomas, R. R. 46, Hammond Times carrier. The three-day campaign, being waged by Hammond Times newsboys today through Saturday, has as its minimum goal a package of cigarettes for the men on the fighting fronts from every resident of Hammond and

the area, man, woman and child. Under government regulations cigarettes sent the fighting forces with the fund will cost only 5 cents a package and little Dorothy's gift makes possible 10 packages. While her five cousins will not get the packages individually, "Smokes for Yanks" campaigns being waged nationwide under auspices of the leading newspapers of each area, will assure every Yank an ample supply of "smokes." Contributions can be made at The Hammond Times office by those overlooked by the campaigning newsboys.



# Parents, Who Feared Son Was Dead, Overjoyed to Learn He's a Prisoner

Hammond Times, July 1, 1943

The spirit of joy and happiness rules supreme once again in the home of Mr. and



Pfc. DeRolf



Mrs. DeRolf

Mrs. George DeRolf, 6523 Jefferson avenue, Hammond, after more than 19 months of anxious waiting for news via the newspaper, mail, radio, and American Red Cross regarding the fate of their son Pfc. Dell D. DeRolf, of the U. S. marine corps.

The good news has come at last to these parents who never gave up hope. Pfc. DeRolf, feared lost in the Philippine islands since the fall of Bataan, is alive and well.

In a letter received from marine headquarters in Washington, D. C., Mr. and Mrs. DeRolf, learned that their son's name was included in a recent partial list of American prisoners of war in the Manila bay area received by the International Red Cross.

"It's almost too good to be true, hearing that my son is still alive," gleamed Mrs. DeRolf. "When the letter came late yesterday afternoon, I was almost afraid to open it. Then, after reading it, I was so happy! Well, I just sat down and had a really good cry.

"Only parents who have gone through what we have can appreciate what this news means to us. Where there's life, there's hope, and I just know it won't be long before we'll get to see Dell again."

The report failed to give the exact location of internment, but instructed the parents that they could communicate with Pfc. DeRolf at the following address: U. S. marine corps, interned in the Philippine island, care of the Japanese Red Cross, Tokyo, Japan, via: New York, New York.

Regardless to say Pfc. DeRolf's father, who was completely overcome with joy by the good news, spent long and eagerly awaited for hours last evening in writing to his son and telling him how happy everyone at home is to know he is alive.

The last time Mr. and Mrs. DeRolf have heard from their son was on Nov. 9, 1941, when he wrote that he expected to be transferred from his base with the Fourth U. S. marine in Shanghai. Anxiety over his fate was relieved somewhat by a previous communication from marine headquarters informing them that he had been transferred to the Philippine islands in November of 1941 and had been serving under Gen.'s MacArthur and Wainwright in the defense of Bataan.

Pfc. DeRolf's outfit had been evacuated to Corregidor, but it is unknown whether he reached the island fortress before being taken prisoner.

A graduate of Hammond high school with the class of 1937 and a former carrier for The Hammond Times, Pfc. DeRolf enlisted in the marines on January 3, 1940.

In addition to Dell, the three other sons of Mr. and Mrs. DeRolf are serving with the U. S. army. Herbert, the eldest son, is a sergeant stationed with quartermaster corps in north Africa; John, at present time home on furlough, is a private first class with the 113th engineers at Camp Livingston, La.; and Garlin, the youngest of the boys, is a private in training with a cavalry reconnaissance troop at Camp Blanding, Fla.



# Hammond's World War Dead

Hammond Times, May 30, 1943.

A temporary memorial to the 21 Hammond soldiers, sailors and marines who have lost their lives in World war II, will be dedicated today during Memorial day observances. The memorial, a large-scale replica of a service flag, was presented to the city by the chamber of

commerce. It will stand at the base of the city hall flag pole for the duration. Later a permanent memorial will be erected. The name of each additional Hammond youth to make the supreme sacrifice in this war will be added.



From October 1940 to May 15, 1943

- ★ **PFC. PETER BICANIC**  
1934 Clay Street  
Died Feb. 8, 1943 in North Africa  
Graduate of Hammond Tech
- ★ **WILLIAM F. BIESEN**  
947 Michigan Street  
Killed in Tecate, Mex., Dec. 15, 1940  
Attended Hammond High two years
- ★ **MACHINIST MATE WALTER L. BROWN**  
1336 North Drive  
Killed at Miami, Fla., Feb. 27, 1943

- ★ **STAFF SGT. MAX L. BYBEE, JR.**  
6412 Monroe Avenue  
Killed Oct. 15, 1942, near Chicago Municipal Airport  
Graduate of Hammond High school
- ★ **SGT. ROBERT FRANCIS GARR, JR.**  
1124 Summer Street  
Killed in action at Wake Island  
Withdrew from Hammond High to join Marines



★ **SGT. CONRAD KUJAWA**

5733 Baring Avenue  
Died Dec. 7, 1941, during bombing of  
Hickam Field in Hawaii

★ **SGT. CHARLES J. MILLER**

422 Detroit Street  
Killed at Columbia or Myrtle Beach, S. C.,  
Nov. 15, 1942  
Attended St. Joseph and Catholic Central  
High

★ **STAFF SGT. CLARENCE J. NELSON**

7212 Jackson Avenue  
Died Feb. 9, 1943 of meningitis in Panama  
Canal Zone  
Graduate of Roosevelt High school in East  
Chicago

★ **2nd LT. JOHN SEDOR, JR.**

1221 — 172nd St. Bombardier U. S. Army  
Air Force  
Killed near White City, Kansas, Jan. 6,  
1942  
Attached to 469th Bombardment Squadron  
Topeka, Kas.

★ **PFC. LESTER C. SIMKINS**

6216 Jefferson Avenue  
Killed in South Pacific  
Graduate of Hammond Tech

★ **STAFF SGT. STEVE SOPP**

1025 Ames Street  
Killed, Sept. 28, 1942 near Lakeland, Fla.,  
in training plane crash  
Graduate of Hammond High

★ **PVT. WILLIAM S. SPILLY**

2048 Atchison Avenue  
Killed in action in the North African area  
Graduate of Whiting High school

★ **L. A. C. RICHARD STEELMAN**

Royal Canadian Air Force  
28 Roselawn Street  
Killed near Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, Jan.  
6, 1943  
Graduate of Hammond High

★ **SGT. STEVE TALL**

1254 — 169th Street  
Died at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii of  
encephalitis, May, 1942  
Attended Hammond Tech

★ **CORP. WILLIAM M. TUCKER**

441 Highland Street  
Marine Corps Aircraft Inspector  
Killed in action somewhere in Pacific  
theater of war

★ **PVT. LOUIS TYRKA**

4109 Dearborn Avenue  
Killed somewhere in Pacific "presumably  
Solomon Islands," Jan. 14, 1943  
Attended St. Casimer's and Hammond  
Tech, also George Rogers Clark, Awarded  
Purple Heart

★ **1ST LT. JOHN R. VAN DE LESTER**

43 Doty Street  
Killed in Pacific, Dec. 24, 1941  
Graduate of Hammond High, 1931  
Awarded Purple Heart

★ **STAFF SGT. WILLIAM VONDERHERE**

4634 Henry Avenue  
Died of pneumonia at Yuma, Ariz., Dec. 17,  
1942  
Graduate of St. John Lutheran school and  
Hammond High

★ **SGT. JOHN WHITTAKER**

4925 Pine Avenue  
Killed in accident, Needles, Calif., Oct. 29,  
1942

★ **PFC. SIGMUND J. ZATORSKI**

637 Huehn Street  
Died March 25, 1943 of bronchial pneu-  
monia at San Diego, Calif.  
Graduate of Hammond High, 1936

★ **PVT. GEORGE RODOVICH**

1130 Moss Street  
Drowned May, 14, 1943 at Greenville, Calif.



## HAMMOND PETTY OFFICER BRINGS HOME HEAD OF JAP KILLED AT GUADALCANAL



Don Ervin

Hammond Times, June 3, 1943

Although he is only 24 years old, Don Ervin, son of Mrs. Etta Ervin, of 714—165th street, Hammond, has attained the high rank of first class petty officer, and is one of Hammond's real heroes of the current war.

Don, home on a furlough after action in the south Pacific, was recently feted by members of the William G. Haan, VFW post of Hammond, and the Optimist club last Wednesday at Woodmar Country club where he was presented a \$25 war bond.

Don has seen a lot of service during the three years he has been in the navy. He took part in the heavy fighting of Guadalcanal and other Pacific islands against the Japs and was reported wounded and missing.

His official title is an aerographers mate first class with petty officer rating. His duties call for knowledge of aviation and the Hammond youth can shoot a machine gun on an airplane with the best of them.

The Hammond hero has never been known as a head hunter, but on his furlough here from the islands he brought home the head of a Jap killed on Guadalcanal, pieces of a Zero plane he shot down; a Jap helmet and souvenirs of money from New Guinea.

The souvenirs he turned over to Mace Roberts, commander of the VFW post at 5719 Calumet avenue. He is a graduate of Hammond high school.

## GRABNER AWARDED DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS IN PACIFIC AREA



Grabner

Hammond Times, June 3, 1943

"For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flights in the southwest Pacific area from Nov. 4, 1942, to Feb. 3, 1943," Carl Grabner, who made his home in Hammond with his sister, Mrs. Donald Valade, 844—175th street, was decorated with the distinguished flying cross.

His commanding officer, in a letter to Grabner's mother, Mrs. John Grabner, reported:

"He participated in more than 50 missions, dropping supplies and transporting troops over territory that was continually patrolled by enemy fighter aircraft. Often landings were made on fields which were only a few miles from Jap bases. These operations aided considerably in the recent successes in this theater.

"Almost every hour of the day, your son, and the sons of other American mothers, are doing just such things as that here in the southwest Pacific. Theirs is a very real and tangible contribution to victory and peace.

"I would like to tell you how genuinely proud I am to have such men as your son in my command and how gratified I am to know that young Americans with such courage and resourcefulness are fighting our country's battle against the aggressor nations."

Grabner was employed at the Hubbard Steel company, East Chicago, before entering army service.



## STATIONED IN ENGLAND



**Jaeger**

Hammond Times, June 7, 1943

Tec. Cpl. Edmund J. Jaeger, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Jaeger, 7142 Jefferson avenue, Hammond, is stationed in England in the signal division of the army air forces.

A graduate of Catholic Central high school and a former employe of the Inland Steel company, Indiana Harbor, Jaeger was promoted to his present rank at Kansas City, Mo., where he completed his advanced flight training. His basic training was at Camp Crowder, Mo.

His address is the 66th signal co., 1st service group, APO 367, care of postmaster, New York City, N. Y.

## RECEIVES PROMOTION OVERSEAS

Hammond Times, June 30, 1943



**J. Lypka**

Joseph Lypka, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Lypka, 104 Mulberry street, Hammond, was promoted to first clas seaman serving with the navy somewhere in the Pacific area.

Lypka enlisted in August last, formerly was employed at the United States Gypsum company, East Chicago, and was a student at Hammond Technical high school.

## COMMISSIONED, HOME



**G. Sakas**

Hammond Times, June 30, 1943

Lt. Gabriel Sakas of Hammond now is home for his first leave since he was inducted into the army in September, 1941. He received his basic training at Fort Warren, Wyo., after which he was stationed in the Panama Canal zone for 13 months.

Sakas received his lieutenant's commission last Friday at Camp Lee, Va., and will leave soon for his new assignment in the quartermaster corps at Fort Riley, Kas. A graduate of Hammond high school, Sakas attended Indiana State Teacher's college at Terre Haute before his induction. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Sakas, who have owned and operated the grocery store at 1257 Summer street, Hammond, for 23 years.

## WILL TRAIN OVERSEAS



**E. P. Bonchik**

Hammond Times, June 30, 1943

Staff Sgt. Edward P. Bonchik, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Bonchik, 2043 Lincoln avenue, Robertsdale, stationed at base general depot, San Bernardino, Calif., was accepted for officer training school after passing necessary tests with high scores. He will receive his training on arrival at his "overseas" destination. On completing the course, he will be commissioned a second lieutenant.



## PROMOTED IN AFRICA

Hammond Times, June 30, 1943

Stationed in the North African theater of operations, Joseph A. Macnak, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Macnak 1632 Stanton avenue, Whiting, was promoted from first lieutenant to captain by command of General Eisenhower. Capt. Macnak, whose wife, Mary, is living at 2007 Indianapolis boulevard, Whiting, has seen active duty in North Africa since the first of March.

In service since July, 1941, the young commissioned officer was stationed for basic army training at Fort Eustis, Va., and Fort Bliss, Tex., from where he was transferred overseas. He was employed at the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company before armed service.

## WHITING BROTHERS UNITED

Hammond Times, June 30, 1943

Separated when they were inducted into the armed forces, two Whiting brothers recently were re-united in North Africa when the companies to which each have been assigned landed on that continent.

They are Pfc. Victor H. Simon and Pvt. Arthur A. Simon, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Simon, 943 Myrtle street, Whiting. The Simons have two other brothers in service, Pvt. Clarence R. Simon, now stationed in Loredo, Texas, and Pvt. George F. Simon, now stationed in Nashville, Tennessee.

## MEDAL AWARDED ED A. SWANSON

Hammond Times, July 4, 1943

Pvt. Edward A. Swanson, 556 Forsythe avenue, Calumet City, was decorated with the Purple Heart in the United States naval hospital at Great Lakes naval training station Friday.

Swanson of the U. S. marines was wounded by shrapnel on Guadalcanal last Nov. 3. The award of the medal was made by Capt. W. E. Eaton, commander of the hospital, who also honored three other wounded veterans with the decoration.

## BLACK OAK HERO SHOTS DOWN TWO AXIS PLANES IN RAID ON MESSINA



Gene W. Royse

Hammond Times, June 30, 1943

Allied headquarters in north Africa this week announced that Gene W. Royse, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Royse, 2645 Fairbanks street, Black Oak, shot down two German Focke, Wulf 190's in last Friday's "Flying Fortress" raid on the battered port of Messina, military lifeline of the besieged island of Sicily.

Royse alone accounted for two of the 25 enemy fighter planes shot down by the Americans during the raid.

His shooting mark was considered the more outstanding because Royse, in addition to his duties as a forward gunner on the "Fortress," also serves as flying engineer and is responsible for the mechanical operation of the ship.

Proud as Mrs. Royse was of her son's exploit, she said the news also served to reassure her of his safety, since she has not received a letter from him in six weeks.

Royse received his army air force training at a Nevada air field and now is a technical sergeant, following a promotion from staff sergeant.

Before he enlisted a year ago, Royse had served a two-year apprenticeship as a machinist in the Continental Roll and Steel foundry's Hubbard plant in East Chicago. His father is a worker in the Hubbard roll shop.

A graduate of Roosevelt high school, East Chicago, Royse has a brother, Jack, 21, who is stationed with the infantry in Texas.



## JACK CEARING A CORPORAL

Hammond Times, July 4, 1943

Jack Cearing, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Cearing, 1038 Highland street, Hammond, was promoted from corporal to the rank of aviation cadet on June 28, his second promotion in three days, since on June 25 he was promoted from private to corporal. Entering the army in March this year, Cearing is stationed in San Antonio, Tex. He formerly was employed at the Standard Railway Equipment manufacturing company, Hammond, and was graduated from Hammond high school in June, 1942.

John F. Rzepski, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Rzepmski, 1313 West 142nd street, East Chicago, is stationed in Alaska. Before entering service, he was employed at the Superheater company, Hammond.

## GRIFFITH PARENTS RECEIVE PURPLE HEART FOR HERO SON WHO IS MISSING IN ACTION

Hammond Times, July 4, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Riehl, of this community, yesterday were informed by Secretary of War Stimson that a Purple Heart has been posthumously awarded to their son, Pvt. George M. Riehl, who is missing.

The soldier's father is a past commander of the American Legion and an instructor in the Whiting schools.

The 22-year-old gunner was officially listed as missing in action last Aug. 8. He was aboard an airplane that left Oahu island, Territory of Hawaii, on a special mission March 22, 1942. Contact with the plane was lost March 25 "somewhere in the Pacific."

Private Riehl enlisted in the army air forces in 1939 after graduating from Whiting high school. Upon completing his training, he was sent to Hawaii, shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The Riehls recently were notified that all traces of the plane or its fate had vanished. Aboard the plane were six other crew members and a major, all of whom are believed to have perished.

The youth's father is a past district commander of the American Legion.

## MATTOON IS SERGEANT



Mattoon

Hammond Times, July 4, 1943

Roy E. Mattoon, 248 Vine street, Hammond, has been promoted from technician, 4th class to sergeant in the communications division, army infantry. He has been in service for a year and nine months and spent sixteen months of that time in the Hawaiian islands, recently moving to another post in the Pacific. Mattoon is a graduate of Hammond Tech and is a former employe of Inland Steel.

## IN PANAMA CANAL ZONE



Don L. Olson

Hammond Times, July 2, 1943

Don L. Olson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Olson, 549 Highland street, Hammond, now holds a rating as a motor machinist's mate, second class, in the navy. Don enlisted on January 2 of this year and is now stationed in the Panama Canal zone. His parents last had direct word from Don on June 21, his birthday, when he telephoned to them over long distance. A three-day leave he obtained a few weeks ago allowed him to visit Miami, Fla., Don told his parents.



## Attu Horrors Told in Letter from Soldier

Hammond Times, June 27, 1943



W. Roseberry

The heroic story of Yankee soldiers who battled with the Japs in the Aleutian islands in the freezing cold weather last month to recapture the islands after more than a week of painful fighting, with the feet of nearly every American warrior swollen and throbbing from the damp and cold, was told in unemotional, precise terms by Pfc. William Roseberry of Hammond, in a letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Roseberry, 6718 Leland avenue.

"Dear mother and father," the letter said: "It sure is good to be back in the United States again. I didn't think I'd see the U.S.A. again for a long time to come. But I got frozen feet while I was at Attu fighting with the Japs, and they sent me home with some others to recuperate.

"Believe me, that was a battle, but we have the island well in American hands now. We left Adak on May 14, and got to Attu, May 17, and then on the 18th we made the attack.

"We ran them up into the mountains and we kept after them until we got them down close to the bay. There were quite a few wounded and some killed. My lieutenant and four other men in our platoon were killed. My lieutenant ducked from being hit by a hand grenade and a Jap sniper shot him in the back. It is not a good sight to see your buddies go like that. We even had to shoot "dead" Japs again to make sure that they were dead, because otherwise they would "play possum" and when we'd pass them, they'd get up and let us have it.

"I got about 10 Japs and I shot some that were playing dead. On the 24th of the month, I went to the first aid station because my feet were frozen, and they transferred me to a ship, where there were quite a few others with the same trouble, a lot from my company.

"On the 26th we sailed to Adak, picked up some more patients, and left some there that were feeling better. I didn't get off because my feet were kind of bad. I couldn't walk on them for a while.

"We sailed on to the States, and I was sure glad to get here."

Young Roseberry, now stationed in Texas after his release from the San Francisco military hospital, where he recovered from his battle scars, is expected home next week.

### EDWARDS IN CHINA



E. Edwards

Hammond Times, July 2, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. John Edwards, 218 Williams street, Hammond, who have one son, Staff Sgt. Eugene, in the air force with the "Flying Tigers" in China, have two other sons, Wayne and John, following his footsteps who were recently accepted as air cadets.

All three brothers were graduated from Hammond high school. John leaves June 30 for training and Wayne, who attended Indiana university, is still waiting for his call to active service.



## PURPLE HEART AWARDED EAST CHICAGO PARENTS FOR SON KILLED IN ACTION



Pfc. Peter Klein

Hammond Times, June 27, 1943

Pfc. Peter Klein, who sacrificed his life in defense of his country on the north African battle front exactly a year ago April 23, when he entered the medical corps of the 18th infantry, was awarded the Purple Heart posthumously by the United States government, according to a letter of sympathy received by his widow, Mrs. Helen Klein, 4317 Northcote avenue, East Chicago, from Henry L. Stimson, secretary of war.

In his letter Stimson said: "The medal, which you will receive shortly is of slight intrinsic value, but rich with the tradition for which Americans are so gallantly giving their lives. The father of our country, whose profile and coat of arms adorn the medal speaks from it across the centuries to the men who fight today for the proud freedom he founded.

"Let me in communicating to you the country's deep sympathy also express to you its gratitude for his valor and devotion."

Pfc. Klein is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Klein of Riverdale. He was 27 years old and prior to his enlistment he was employed by the Acme Steel company.

## WHITING SERGEANT OF THAILAND OFFENSIVE AGAINST JAPS

Hammond Times, June 22, 1943

From Burma and Thailand where Yankee bomber squadrons are beating back the Japs comes word from Major Gen. Clayton L. Bissell, 10th air force commander, praising highly the men in his heavy bomber group for their glorious record in the fight against the Japs. Staff Sgt. Edward Girman of Whiting, a combat crewman, is one of those men responsible for a part of the group's outstanding achievements.

Just a few days ago the bombardment group learned of a citation from the president of the United States issued "for outstanding performance of duty in action during the period Jan. 14 to March 1, 1942."

"Opposing the full force of the numerically superior Japanese with all available aircraft," the citation said, "the bombardment group participated daily in attacking the enemy whenever they found him during his prolong drive through the Philippines and Netherlands Indies to Java. Long range bombing attacks were executed in the face of heavy anti-aircraft fire and large concentrations of



Staff Sgt. Edward Girman

enemy fighter airplanes over the target areas.

"Despite extremely adverse bad weather and dangerous field conditions, hampered by

(Continued on next page)



## NAVY MAN HOME 8 DAYS



R. M. Adams

Hammond Times, July 5, 1943

Robert M. Adams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Adams, 1534 Warwick avenue, Robertsdale, walked in a week ago to surprise his parents with an eight-day furlough ending on July 4.

Adams, a former George Rogers Clark high school student, is a sound man in the navy on duty in the Atlantic.

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### Whiting Sergeant is Spearhead of Offensive

Continued from preceding page

lack of adequate personnel to maintain aircraft in continuous combat condition, many successful missions were performed by crews fatigued from daily flights against the enemy. The superior courage and devotion to duty shown by this bombardment group will always be worthy of emulation."

Sgt. Girman resided with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Girman, 1621 Atchison avenue, before going into service of his country in February, 1942. For a period of four months he has been fighting overseas "somewhere in India." A graduate of Whiting high school in the 1942 class he was employed at the Standard Oil company, prior to his enlistment.

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### DECAMP IN AUSTRALIA

Hammond Times, July 20, 1943

A letter from Australia brings news of his safety from Pvt. Bill DeCamp to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. DeCamp, 18522 Walter street, Lansing. Entering service in January, 1943, he received basic training at Miami Beach, Fla., and later was sent to specialist's school at Robins Field, Ga. He has been assigned to military police duty with the air corps.

Pvt. DeCamp writes that Bill Meistering of Hammond is in his company and also that "Australians certainly treat American soldiers swell."

## WHITING BOY DECORATED

Hammond Times, July 21, 1943

A letter from a Whiting boy fighting overseas always makes good reading, but this one quoted below is especially good to the eyes for it marks just another chapter in the book of victory our Yanks are writing.

Sgt. Edward Kasper of the U. S. army in north Africa was awarded the Purple Heart on Independence day for obvious reasons recounted here in his letter home:

"Well, here it is July 4. Just a little over three months ago that a group of four men were out on desert patrol near the town of Sousse, just this side of Tunis. The small party was chatting gaily as they ploughed the sands in a jeep, when a bullet pierced the spare tire on the rear of the 'blitz-buggie' and two more lodged in the motor block.

"The jeep came to a halt as the four occupants alighted and threw themselves to the sand opposite the side from where the fire came, so as to have the vehicle for protective covering between themselves and the enemy. A quick consultation was held. By means of their feet and hands they pushed aside the sand until each had a shallow hole that afforded protection to the body.

"For the next three hours and 23 minutes of blistering sun and straining of the eyes. Their vigil-knowing well that foreign eyes were upon them. Darkness fell. The four Yanks, tommy guns in hand, crawled like sand crabs some 300 yards backwards. Another shallow foxhole, more waiting and straining of the eyes. Their vigilance was soon awarded. Six blurry objects approached the

Continued page 111

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### TWO HAMMOND MEN JAP PRISONERS

Hammond Times, July 22, 1943

Two Hammond men are included among 248 soldiers, sailors and marines who are reported by the navy department to be prisoners of the Japanese in the Philippines and Japan.

They are Joseph Leo Bingham, seaman, first class and the son of E. R. Bingham, 5712 Erie street; Pvt. Dell R. DeRolf, a marine, son of George DeRolf, 6523 Jefferson avenue.



## Tells of the Casablanca Visit

Hammond Times, July 11, 1943



Sgt. Keith Kuhn

"Two other cooks and myself fixed the lunches that President Roosevelt and his staff ate during their Casablanca conference."

This sentence and a description of the capture of German troops in Tunis and Bizerte comprise the highlights of an uncensored letter received this week by Mr. and Mrs. William Kuhn, 5713 Calumet avenue, Hammond, from their son, Sgt. Keith Kuhn, 23-year-old veteran of the north African campaign.

Sgt. Kuhn, whose brothers, Ralph and Robert are serving in the navy, is a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars post No. 3029, commanded by Mace Roberts. Before entering the army, he was employed by the Holliday Steel company.

Dated May 21st and addressed to his mother and father, the letter declared:

"Since everything has ended over here they have given us permission to tell all about our past experiences in Africa. Our outfit landed in Casablanca December 24.

"We were in that vicinity for about two months during which time our president came to Africa to hold his conference with Winston Churchill and the commanders of the different Allied divisions of the armed forces.

"Our outfit walked guard around the villa where the conference was held and two other cooks and myself fixed the lunches that the president and his staff ate during their stay here. Incidentally, the conference was held in

a city called Marrakich, and not in Casablanca,, as the newspapers stated. This place was the most beautiful spot I've seen since being in north Africa.

"After two months, we moved to a town called Pettijean, which is about 50 miles north-east of Robot. Our purpose was to maintain outposts at strategic points to guard against any trouble which might have come from Spanish Morocco, which lay just to the north of us.

"Just when it seemed like we would never see any combat, they moved us near Mateus, a trip of nearly 1,400 miles, which was made by vehicle. There the enemy contacted and for the next 3 days, ending with the capture of Tunis and Bizerte, our outfit drove the 'Heinies' back through Mateur Ferryville and finally to Tunis and Bizerte, where they surrendered, not one or two at a time but by hundreds and thousands. They didn't seem to want to fight anymore.

"Now that everything is over, we are sort of resting up and taking it easy. Where our next move will be, nobody knows. Now that we have been on the move so long, nobody wants to settle down in one place for very long.

"Well, Mom and Dad, there's nothing much more to say so I'll close. Here's hoping this letter finds you both okay. With love,

KEITH."



**HAMMOND SOLDIER, PRISONER OF NAZIS  
PRAISES WORK OF AMERICAN RED CROSS**

**HAMMOND PRIVATE AWARDED DFC, OAK  
LEAF CLUSTER FOR TRANSPORT FLIGHTS**

Hammond Times, July 20, 1943

Hammond Times, July 21, 1943



**Shryock**



**L. J. Augustyn**

*Communique from Germany*

A letter from her son, recently reported missing in action, even though it was post-marked Germany brought much happiness to Mrs. Harry Shryock of Hammond, whose son, Pfc. Leo L. Shryock was captured in Africa on Feb. 17 and is now confined in a German prison camp.

The letter dated March 21 recounted: "I was surprised at the conditions here in prison camp, finding them much better than anticipated—we sleep in barracks with lights, heat, mattresses and blankets—our food consists of tea, bread, margarine, jam, salt, sugar, potatoes, cheese, bologna, carrots, cabbage and rice."

"The Red Cross," he added "is swell; they helped me communicate with you and they send boxes of food every week."

"I spent my birthday (which was March 2) in Italy he said and also noted he was hoping for an exchange of prisoners.

Pfc. Shryock, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Shryock, enlisted with the infantry on Oct. 17, 1941. He trained at Camp Wheeler, Ga., and was sent across four months after entering service. His first stop was Ireland and he was captured in action on the African front.

Pvt. Leo J. Augustyn, brother of Mrs. Charles Ruzycki, 4313 Baltimore avenue, Hammond, has been awarded the distinguished flying cross. The citation from "somewhere in New Guinea," reads "for extraordinary achievement while participating in 50 operational flights within a few miles of enemy bases," his sister announced today.

A radio operator with an air transport troop carrying squadron, Augustyn was honored in the citation accompanying the DFC award. The citation read as follows:

"For . . . missions in the southwest Pacific area, during which hostile contact was probable and expected, these operations consisting of dropping supplies and transporting troops to advanced positions, flying at low altitudes over mountainous terrain under adverse weather conditions in an unarmed transport plane, and often necessitating landing within a few miles of enemy-held bases.

"Throughout these flights, outstanding ability and devotion to duty was demonstrated."

Augustyn also was awarded the airman's medal for 70 flights and the Oak Leaf cluster, an exceptionally high award, for 125 missions.

The Hammond youth has been in service since he enlisted April 21, 1942, after working at the Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing company, Hammond.



# Hard Bitten Men Assure Tank Quality

Hammond Times July 15, 1943



When Paul Kempel, 47, of 9528 South Hamlin avenue, Chicago, skids a General Sherman tank around the dirt track at the Pressed Steel Car company's plant, Hegewisch, he feels he is aiding his son, N. F. Kempel, who is with the American air force in North Africa.

For Kempel, with other hard-bitten daredevils, is a test driver and his hazardous, skin-battering work insures the quality of the fighting tanks sent the ground forces which back up his son's aerial attacks on the Axis.

Kempel, shown above in the tank at right, rides in clouds of dust, flying stone and in tanks previously untried. It is his duty to find defects which are corrected before the fighting machines are sent to army camps and the fronts.

After only a few minutes of the test run, his face is begrimed and small cuts and scars bear evidence of the battering he takes.

Tanks produced at the Pressed Steel Car

company vividly depict the evolution of America's fighting machine. Kempel rides at the right in an older type tank, the angular lines of which are prominent. At the left is the new tank with its streamlined effect, with better protection for the crew and designed to shunt aside much of the enemy's gunfire.

## DELONG IN AFRICA

Hammond Times, July 14, 1943

Pvt. Robert L. DeLong, a paratrooper from Highland, reports to his wife that he is stationed for combat duty somewhere in north Africa. DeLong, who entered the armed service last December, completed his training and received his silver wings at Fort Benning, Ga. He is the son of Mrs. Walter Redmond, near Highland. A Roosevelt high graduate, he was employed at Pullman Standard company before induction.



## BRIDE LOSES HUSBAND IN PLANE ACCIDENT

Hammond Times July 15, 1943

A bride of only 18 days today is driving through alone from Valdosta, Ga., to the home of her parents in Hammond. She is trying bravely to stand up under the cruel blow fate has dealt her. She is alone because her soldier-husband died yesterday in the line of duty.

That's the tragic plight of Mrs. Marion James, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob E. Hanson, 6423 Forest avenue, Hammond, and a bride on June 27th of Lt. Ralph James, army air corps, pilot who was killed yesterday afternoon in a crash just east of the Georgia town in which they were living.

### *Full Military Rites*

Lt. James, an honor student at the University of Illinois and a student pilot with the air corps, was officially listed as dead by the war department before his bride was notified of the crash. She immediately telephoned her parents, telling them she will drive through from Georgia today.

The body of her husband will leave Valdosta air field tomorrow by train and will arrive in Hammond some time Sunday afternoon. Lt. John Griffith, one of the dead pilot's close friends, will accompany the casket. A full military funeral is being arranged. Lt. James' father, John James of Edinburg, Ill., will be present for the rites.

The James' wedding, held in the First Baptist church, Hammond, was one of the community's finest ceremonies. Lt. James, in service more than a year, obtained a furlough long enough to permit him to give his bride a honeymoon trip before they settled in their newly-furnished cottage in Valdosta.

### HAMMOND LT. SENDS A LETTER

Lieut. (J. G.) Don Ewing, who lived in Hammond five years while employed as office manager of the Metals Refining company, wrote from north Africa:

"Life here (north Africa) is pleasant enough, an agreeable climate and plenty to eat. There is still a latent desire, however, to see or hear something more exciting than the bill of fare of the last 1½ months.

"I think the best break the men get over here is from the Red Cross, which has some excellent recreational programs on their schedule. Free movies and dances are arranged, and now that they have started serving ice cream at 2 francs a plate, enthusiasm is running high.

"Since writing last I have made a move on the checkerboard over here — somebody from home asked if I'd moved across the street because of censorship. All I can say is "no." The net results of the move are still being totaled but so far, about the only effects have been somewhat more work to do and a more urban life after our six months with the country Arabs.

"I hope you find time to toy with several of the more difficult holes on the Woodmar course."

The letter came via V mail in 10 days.



Baltruszajtis

### PIPEFITTER FIRST CLASS NOW

Hammond Times, July 14, 1943

Paul Baltruszajtis, son of Mrs. Emily Baltruszajtis, 4029 Tod avenue, East Chicago, was promoted from the specialist's rating of pipefitter second class to pipefitter first class in the "sea-bees" stationed at Honolulu, where he has been serving for a year and three months.

His wife, the former Jessie Lovely, who is living at 7744 Columbia avenue, Hammond, has not seen her husband since he enlisted a year ago April. She is a war plant welder. Receiving his "boot" training at Norfolk, Va., and Davidsville, R. I., the Hammond man was shipped overseas five weeks after entering.



## ON FURLUGH FROM ICELAND

Hammond Times, July 18, 1943



E. J. Wright

After an assignment in Iceland, Sgt. Elbert J. Wright, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Wright, 6433 Garfield avenue, is home for the first time in 22 months. On July . . ., this Hammond sergeant is to report at Camp Atterbury and then to Wright Field at Dayton, O., where he will be trained as an airplane technician. Sgt. Wright graduated from Hammond Technical high school in 1938 and a year later he enlisted in the U. S. army.

## BACK AFTER GUADALCANAL



L. Williams

Hammond Times, July 12, 1943

After a year's service in Guadalcanal and Tulagi, Cpl. LaVerne Williams, 24, son of Mrs. Lawrence Deck of Griffith, is home on a 30-day convalescent furlough from the marine corps.

A member of the marine reserve, William left with the first group of marines to start training in December, 1940, and has been serving with the corps ever since. He received his basic and advanced training at San Diego, Calif. He attended Hammond high school.

## RECEIVES GUN FROM SON

Hammond Times, July 18, 1943

Mrs. Julia Gacek, 2506 White Oak avenue, Robertsdale, was thrilled Thursday evening to hear of her son's activities overseas when a friend of Pfc. Stanley Murzyn of the U. S. marines, brought her a gun which young Murzyn had taken from a Jap he had killed and sent home with his friend. Pfc. Murzyn, who is believed to be in New Zealand, graduated from the Hammond Tech high school and was employed at the Standard Oil company before he left for service with the marines about a year ago. He has been on active duty overseas for the past 10 months. He has another, Ted, who is with the marine corp at Memphis, Tenn.

## Whiting Boy Decorated —

Continued from page 106

jeep that had been recently abandoned. Fortune favored the Americans as their sun-tan uniforms blended with the sand. The four in khaki presently realized who their attackers might be from the guttural German that carried through the stillness of the night. The German began to tinker with the jeep as two of their party climbed inside. A tommy gun was slowly raised to a firing position and placed at automatic fire with a drum magazine holding 50 rounds of ammunition. A burst of flame split the darkness mingled with cries of 'KOMERAD' (The German word used when surrendering). Two dark figures slumped forward in the front seat of the jeep while four others stood rigidly with their hands high above their heads shouting 'KOMERAD.' A whispered consultation was held among the Yanks. A sergeant raised himself to his feet with a sub-machine gun leveled from his hip, and slowly approached the group. His three comrades covered him from the rear. Thus, the remaining four were taken prisoner. The following day the bodies of the dead Germans were searched and allowed to be buried by their own men. The prisoners were marched to headquarters as the four Americans followed behind in the jeep."

Edward Kasper was that sergeant. Formerly of 1541 Roberts avenue, Whiting, he captured six German paratroopers with a small patrol.



# *He's Lucky 2000 at Center*

Hammond Times, July 12, 1943



Pfc. Kenneth E. Rosene, of 917 Fields avenue, Hammond, stationed at Miami Beach, Fla., with the 19th army air force band, was the lucky No. 2,000 at the Hammond Service Men's Center. Shown above with Mrs.

John B. Hulsey, center supervisor, he is being presented with a kit bag containing a shaving kit, stationery and a carton of cigarettes as the 2,000th service man visitor to the center since its opening.

## **MILITARY RITES FOR SHURMAN**

Full military funeral rites were held this afternoon for Lt. Edwin J. Shurman, 24, of Indiana Harbor, who was killed Friday when two army airplanes collided near Wright Field at Dayton, O.

Conducted by Twin City Post No. 266 of the American Legion, services were held at 2:30 o'clock with Rev. George Francis of the Methodist church officiating. Burial was in

(Continued on next page)



Ridge Lawn cemetery in Gary.

Lt. Shurman, who had been in the army for approximately two years, was overseas for 10 months and was in the midst of the fighting during the battle of the Solomons. He returned to the United States last March and was stationed for a few weeks at Denver, Colo., before being sent to Wright Field.

He was married April 7 in Indianapolis to Miss Mary Jane Lewis, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lewis, 1904 Broadway, Indiana Harbor. Mrs. Shurman is a teacher at Roosevelt high school and had been with her husband in Dayton since shortly after the end of the school term in June.

A graduate of Washington high school, Lt. Shurman was the son of Jacob A. Shurman, 3830 Fern street, Indiana Harbor.

In addition to his father and his wife, he is survived by seven brothers and sisters.

He and seven other persons were killed, and two civilians parachuted to safety, when a four-engined transport and a twin-engined cargo ship collided and crashed when flying at a low altitude near the army camp.

#### IN NORTH PACIFIC



C. Frisk

Hammond Times, July 12, 1943

Carl Frisk, Jr., 27, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Frisk, Sr., 4737 Towle avenue, Hammond, was promoted to carpenter's mate, second class, with a naval construction battalion serving in the north Pacific area.

A Hammond Technical high school graduate, Frisk enlisted in August, 1942. His brother, Arthur, 22, is an army reserve cadet. He is studying on the Indiana university, Bloomington, campus.

#### TWIN CITY HERO



E. Pietrucha

Hammond Times July 25, 1943

For rescuing the entire crew of an American tank which overturned in a hail of enemy gunfire during the recent Tunisian campaign, an East Chicago youth, Pvt. Edward A. Pietrucha, 4803 Walsh avenue, East Chicago, was awarded the "Silver Star," given for gallantry in action.

According to a dispatch received in East Chicago, Pvt. Pietrucha, while seeking cover in a slit trench during enemy artillery fire, observed a United States tank turn over a short distance from his position.

Leaving the security of his slit trench and advancing toward the tank, he administered first aid to the tank crew (he is serving with an army medical division), and left them only when they had been completely evacuated.

Later in the day, the dispatch reported, the Twin City hero treated another casualty under similar dangerous circumstances.

"The gallantry, perseverance, and concern for the welfare of his wounded comrades displayed by Pvt. Pietrucha reflects great credit upon himself and his organization and are highly commendable," the citation reads.

According to East Chicago sources, Pvt. Pietrucha is the first Twin City soldier to receive the Silver Star decoration, which is a new medal cast for World War II heroes, and is shaped like a five-pointed star.

Pietrucha, son of Mrs. Adolph Pietrucha, entered service in January, 1941, received his basic training at Fort Knox, Ky., in the armored division, medical detachment, and in 1942 first went overseas, landing in Ireland. He was in the convoy which carried the invasion forces to north Africa.



# WHITING BOYS MEET

SOLDIERS HELD REUNION IN NAZI PRISON CAMP

Hammond Times, July 23, 1943

Through the persistent efforts of the Whiting chapter of the American Red Cross Pvt. John Paylo reported missing in action was located in a Germany prison camp before even the war department had made contact or notified the parents of their son's location.

In his first letter received last week by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Paylo, 2833 Schrage avenue, Whiting, Pvt. Paylo concluded "this is a small world after all" for two other Whiting boys, Pvt. John Fercik and Pvt. Walter Jamrose, recently reported prisoners of war in Germany, are staging a home town reunion together in the same prison camp.

Evidenced by the remarks in the two letters quoted below from Privates Paylo and Fercik, the Red Cross is doing a great service to boys in prison camps.

Pvt. Fercik the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Fercik, 1533 — 121st street, Whiting writes:

March 20, 1943

Dearest Mother and Dad and All:

Well, I hope this letter doesn't take too long to let you know that I am safe and sound in Germany. I am treated swell and get plenty to eat, so please do not worry about me so much. Guess my fighting days are over with



Fercik

now, so just pray that this war should end soon so all of us can come home soon.

Jamrose and Paylo are with me and are in

the best of health. We lost everything we had so please send me some summer underwear, socks and handkerchiefs, toilet articles and an address book, I guess we are allowed a 10-pound package once a month. But check with the Red Cross to make sure. I could receive all the cigarettes you could send me. Tell my friends that I said Hello and to write to me. I could only write two letters a month and four cards so I will write always, and also send me a lot of candy bars. God bless you all.

Love, Johnny.

Pvt. Paylo mentions Pvt. Jamrose, whose parents are Mr. Joseph Jamrose, 2642 Schrage avenue, Whiting, in his first letter home since confinement writes:

March 20, 1943

Dearest Mother, Father and All:

Well, I hope it didn't take too long for this letter to reach you. I arrived safely in Ger-



Jamrose

many and am really being treated alright. I am feeling fine, and Jamrose and Fercik, who are with me, are fine also. We are allowed to write two letters and four postcards a month so you will receive a letter every week, I hope. Mom, you are allowed to send me a 10 pound package every month. However, you had better check with the Red Cross first and find out what you can send. Send me a couple of

(Continued on next page)



suits of summer underwear, some socks and some handkerchiefs, toilet articles and the rest candy bars. Send me some cigarettes: however, I believe they must be sent from the factory. Please, Mom, don't worry. I am being treated fine, and now your worries of my getting hurt are over with, for I won't do any fighting any more. So check immediately with the Red Cross on what you can send. God bless you.

Johnny.

### HOPE LT. EDWARD WALPOLE IS ALIVE ENDED BY WAR DEPARTMENT MESSAGE

Hammond Times July 25, 1943

Hopes of relatives that First Lt. Edward J. Walpole, son of Mrs. Lena B. Walpole, 18331 Sherman street, Lansing, still lives were blanketed yesterday by a war department message to the mother. The message said that Lt. Walpole, who has been listed "missing in action" since last November must be considered lost.

Lt. Walpole, who prior to his enlistment was employed by the Continental Roll and Steel foundry in East Chicago, was engaged to Miss Montie Garret of Albany, Ga. They planned to be married when the war ended.

The war department message said that, after an extensive search in the southwest Pacific area, where his plane was struck by anti-aircraft fire and crashed into the sea, no trace of his body was found. According to the message, all members of his crew also were killed.

Nov. 14, 1942, was given as the date of the tragedy.

Although there appears to be no hope that the lieutenant is alive, his mother will not accept the report as final. She says she believes that, as long as the body has not been found, there is no proof her son is dead.

Besides his mother, Walpole's family included two sisters, Mrs. Ann Page, with whom Mrs. Walpole has been making her home, and Mrs. Margaret Cavanaugh of Chicago, and a brother, James, of Milwaukee.

The young aerial navigator, who is better

known in East Chicago than in Lansing, was a graduate of the Washington high school, East Chicago, and later attended Purdue university, Lafayette, and Indiana university, Bloomington, majoring in engineering and journalism. He did not complete his study in either field, however, enlisting in the army air forces in March, 1941.

Walpole completed air force instruction as a navigator at Turner Field, Ga., in July last year and served as an instructor at the same camp until last September when he was sent overseas.

Lt. Walpole was 25 years of age when he was reported missing. He had an inventive turn of mind, and according to friends was working on a device for the government which would keep automatic account of navigation.

### WITH MARINE ENGINEERS



Werkowski

Hammond Times, July 22, 1943

Sgt. John W. Werkowski, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Werkowski, 4435 Towle avenue, Hammond, is one of the hard-fighting marine engineers, who is helping to account for the success that the Yanks are having in slugging it out with the Japs in the Pacific. Young Werkowski enlisted in January, 1942, and after taking his boot training at San Diego, Calif., was immediately sent to the fighting zone. Although only 22, the young sergeant was one of the best students of military tactics in boot training and this was responsible for his sudden rise to a sergeantcy. A graduate of Hammond high school, the youth attended the University of Idaho where he studied aeronautic engineering and affiliated with the Phi Delta Gamma fraternity.



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# VETERAN HAS ANNIVERSARY

3 YEARS ON SUBMARINES, HE'S JUST 21

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Hammond Times, July 25, 1943



Home for the second time in almost three years of sailing under, instead of on, most of the seven seas, Alvin Nowacki, "sub" veteran son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Nowacki, 7428 Van Buren avenue, Hammond, is shown cutting his 21st birthday cake (the date was last Wednesday) in true nautical fashion, "sighting" down the cake cutter. His mother looks on.

It must have seemed kind of funny to Alvin Nowacki, Hammond veteran of countless submarine excursions, to be kidded about "today you are a man" on his 21st birthday while home on leave this week. He's been doing a man's job for three years.

Nowacki enlisted in the navy in Sept., 1940, was trained at Great Lakes, Ill., and New London, Conn., and was sent in April, 1941,



for active duty at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. From there he transferred to Manilla, but "the Japs got there first," and he proceeded to Australia, where he was based for approximately six months.

Then came the incident Nowacki terms "plain disgustin'"—he was sent to the hospital, not for a battle wound, after having plenty of chances to collect those, but for a fractured skull, the result of an accident, nothing more. He stayed, irate and restless, in a navy hospital, at Perth, Australia, for four months and 11 days, when he was assigned to Mare Island, Cal., and went back to the sea for five months.

Now he is home en route to New London, Conn., where he will await assignment on a submarine now under construction.

Over his heart he wears three ribbons, decorations for being in service before the attack on Pearl Harbor, for service in the American area, and for service in the Asiatic Pacific area, plus two stars standing for six naval engagements. He holds the rank of electrician's mate third class.

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#### **LT. RALPH JAMES BURIED WITH FULL MILITARY HONORS**

Hammond Times, July 23, 1943



**R. H. James**

Killed in line of duty at Moody Field, Valdosta, Ga., on July 14, Lt. Ralph H. James, army air forces instructor and husband of the former Marion Hanson, who had become his bride a few weeks before his death, was buried Tuesday with full military honors. In addition to his widow, he is survived by his father, John R. James of Edinburg; two sisters, Marion of Urbana, Ill., and Joyce of Chicago, and two brothers, Cpl. Richard C. James stationed at Fort Benning, Ga., and J. Robert James of Edinburg.

#### **HAMMOND YOUTH, MARINE RAIDER KILLED IN ACTION**

Hammond Times, July 23, 1943



**Pvt. Snyder**

A U. S. marine raider, Pvt. Eugene Snyder, 19, of Hammond, was killed in action somewhere in the south Pacific battle zone, the war department has informed his sister, Mrs. Donald Fetterhoff, 7235 Missouri avenue, Hammond. No particulars of his death were given. The young hero enlisted Jan. 15, 1942, and was sent overseas last February. Born in Vincennes Feb. 19, 1924, he attended Henry Clay school in Chicago's Hegewisch section. In addition to Mrs. Fetterhoff, with whom he made his home, he is survived by another sister, Mrs. Arthur Gass, Dyer; two brothers, John Snyder, Hammond, and Cecil Snyder, Vincennes, and a grandmother, Mrs. Dora Snyder, Vincennes.

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#### **GRITTON IN NORTH AFRICA**

Hammond Times, July 22, 1943

Mrs. Clarence Cloe, 5618 Howard avenue, Hammond, received word from her brother, Pvt. Joseph E. Gritton, who made his home with her in civilian life, that he has arrived safely in north Africa. Before induction in January this year, Pvt. Gritton was employed at O. F. Jordan Company, East Chicago. Friends who wish to write the Hammond serviceman may address 35530685, Company C, 31st Rep. Bn., APO 8938, care Postmaster, New York City, N. Y.



## PROMOTED IN NORTH AFRICA

Hammond Times, July 22, 1943



Atkins

Stationed with the "Sea-Bees" in Algiers, north Africa, Robert L. Atkins, 913 — 174th place, Hammond, was promoted to electrician's mate third class. In north Africa for about three months, Atkins recently sent his wife and one-and-a-half year old son, Bobby, a souvenir piece of metal from a German bomber shot down in the African battle. Atkins enlisted in the "Sea-Bees" last Dec. 4, receiving training at Camp Edicott, Davisville, R. I., following graduation from Hammond high school in 1937 and service at the Standard Oil company, Whiting. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Atkins, 723 Cherry street, Hammond.

## HARBOR BOY NAZI PRISONER

Hammond Times, July 22, 1943

The efficiency of the East Chicago chamber of commerce was demonstrated yesterday when, with few accurate clues, they delivered a message from Walter J. Cedulski, a German prisoner of war, to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Cedulski, at 3816 Alder street in Indiana Harbor.

The search for the parents started yesterday morning when Leonard G. Kolb, assistant secretary of the chamber of commerce, received the following message from a card

written by Miss Adeline C. Hayes of Lafayette:

"I wish you would convey this message to W. J. Cedulski at 3816 ———. I did not get the street as the static on the short wave was too loud. It was short wave from Germany, from a prisoner of war, and sent to the above name. It stated that their son is well and he tells them not to worry. He is receiving fine treatment. I would appreciate it if you could locate these persons."

With no street name and with the name of the parents incorrectly spelled, Kolb traced the family within a few hours and delivered the message to the parents.

Cedulski, 24, was captured Feb. 17 during the African fighting. After that time his family did not hear from him until last week when they received a letter dated April 23.

The April letter told them that he had been captured and was placed in an Italian prison camp for a few weeks and then removed to a camp in Germany.

## GETS NEW STATION, RANK

Hammond Times, July 7, 1943



BUCKMAN

Word has been received from Cecil Buckman of Hammond that he has arrived safely in England, his current station, and has been promoted to staff sergeant. His wife lives at 992 Wentworth avenue, Calumet City.

Buckman's new address is S/Sgt. Cecil Buckman, 36620578, 79th service group, Hqs. and Hqs. squadron APO No. 637, c/o postmaster, New York City, N. Y.



# *Hammond Sergeant is Decorated for Fourth Time for Pacific Heroism*

Hammond Times, August 6, 1943



Tech. Sgt. Perry Gusic

"For meritorious achievement . . . in an air flight over the Solomon islands," Tech. Sgt. Perry Gusic was decorated with the air medal of the U. S. army on his 23rd birthday anniversary — July 1, his mother, Mrs. Thomas McGreevy, 242 Clinton street, Hammond learned yesterday. It was Sgt. Gusic's fourth decoration since he enlisted Nov. 16, 1939.

Sgt. Gusic was at Hickman field, Honolulu, when the Japs bombed the island on Dec. 7, 1941. He was decorated with the silver star last Sept. 16 for his part in battle of Midway island. Earlier he was among the first Hoosiers to win the distinguished flying cross in World war II—at Wake island and later won the oak leaf cluster to the cross in the Coral sea fight.

"I hope his fourth decoration means he will receive a short furlough," his proud mother wished yesterday. "I haven't seen him since he enlisted. He was sent overseas almost immediately. Last Aug. 6—my birthday anniversary, he telephoned me to say he had been decorated. That's the last time I've heard his voice

and then I was so excited we weren't able to talk about everything we wanted to talk about."

Sgt. Gusic was graduated from Hammond high school, where he played on the first 10 in basketball. At Hickman field the Japanese first bomb blasted his car to bits, but he escaped unscathed. The complete army citation for the air medal, also awarded to several other men in Gusic's bomber:

"For his meritorious achievement while participating as a crew of a bomber in an air flight over the Solomon islands on Jan. 8, 1943. Under difficult circumstances their skill and valor greatly contributed toward the safe return to its base of an entire formation of five D-17 bombers after they successfully completed bombing enemy installations. Three other bombers were crippled by a swarm of enemy interceptor planes. However, maintenance of position in the formation assured mutual support for the balance of the flight and safe return of all."



## SCHRAPNAL WOUND IN ARM



H. Lewsoder, Jr.

Hammond Times, July 5, 1943

Homer Lewsoder, Jr., first class seaman, a former student at Hammond Technical high school, reports "plenty of action" in the south Pacific area, from where he was transferred to the west coast of this country to recuperate from a shrapnel wound in his arm.

His sister, Miss Novella Nash of Hammond, visited him recently in San Pedro, Calif., where he is located.

## HOME AFTER THREE YEARS



W. Tryka

Hammond Times, July 5, 1943

Walter Tryka, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Tryka, 1048 Ames street, Hammond, is home on leave for the first time in his three years of service with the U. S. navy.

Surprising his family and friends, he arrived in Hammond Saturday and will remain until July 6, when he will leave to report to school in Yorktown, Va. An electrician's mate, third class, a navy ranking equal to a sergeant's rank in the army, Tryka enlisted in the service in October, 1940 and has seen much active duty since then, starting with the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

## HOME FROM ACTIVE DUTY



E. J. Adamczyk

Hammond Times, July 5, 1943

Edward J. Adamczyk of Hammond is home on leave from active duty on the Pacific. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Adamczyk, 3904 Drummond street, Hammond, and a former Washington high school student, Adamczyk will return to his navy duties as a fireman first class, his second promotion in three months.

His brother, Edwards, currently is wearing several service bars for participating in major naval engagements.

## SEAMAN VISIT IN EAST CHICAGO

Youths are Veterans of Many Naval Actions

Hammond Times, July 6, 1943



Matt Domsic

Veterans of more sea duty than many men who have seen years of service with the navy, Matt Domsic, 25, and Allen A. Smith, 18, both of East Chicago, are visiting friends and relatives during brief leaves from active naval

(Continued on next page)



duty.

Domsic, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Domsic, 5003 Melville avenue, is a quartermaster, third class, while Smith, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank S. Smith, 704 West Chicago avenue, is a fireman, first class. Domsic serves as assistant navigator, frequently manning the wheel of his ship.



Allen Smith

The ship on which the two Twin City navy men have served has visited almost every Atlantic port and also has seen action in the Mediterranean.

Their ship was one of the fleet units that protected the first big convoy in the African invasion last November. Convoy and patrol assignments are their chief tasks and their campaign ribbons include Atlantic waters and the European theater, with a star for each indicating action in both areas.

On one trip, their ship picked up 22 men who had been on the open Atlantic in mid-winter for 21 days. They were survivors of a United Nations tanker that had been set adrift in life rafts after their ship was sunk by a Nazi submarine.

Both Smith and Domsic refuse to disclose the identity of their ship or to tell in detail a score of actions in which it has been engaged. From their months of active service, however, they have drawn a bitter hatred for the enemy that stalks the sea lanes of the Atlantic.

The chief gunner's mate on their unidentified ship is Kenneth Walgreen, whose brother, Harry, lives at 7548 Jefferson avenue, Hammond.

Smith, a former Roosevelt high school foot-

ball player, has been in the navy since he left school two years ago. Domsic was a packer-operator at the E. I. DuPont plant in East Chicago prior to his enlistment in the navy.

The latter's brother, Joseph Domsic, a sergeant in an army anti-aircraft artillery outfit, has for the last five months been hospitalized at Fort Bliss, Tex., recovering from wounds received during overseas duty.

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### 3 AREA SOLDIERS ITALIAN PRISONERS

Hammond Times, July 6, 1943

Three Calumet region youths today were included in a list of men announced by the war department as being held prisoners of war by Italy.

They were Pvt. John J. Petruff, son of Mrs. Lena Petruff, 1659 Indianapolis boulevard, Whiting; Cpl. Stanley Karsarski, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Karsarski, Hebron, and Tech. Fifth Grade Lawrence W. Hershman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver W. Hershman, Crown Point.

The list was based on 'prior notifications to next of kin,' according to the announcement.

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### ARGENTINE BROTHERS IN SERVICE

Hammond Times, July 7, 1943

Pvt. Frank Argentine, Jr., has been transferred from Camp San Luis Obispo, Calif., to the University of Arkansas, where he is studying a course in electrical engineering.

His brother, Pvt. Clarence P. Argentine, is receiving his basic training in field artillery at Fort Sill, Okla. They live at 6909 Calumet avenue, Hammond.



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# Griffith Soldier Prisoner of Nazis; Broadcasts to Wife From Berlin

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Hammond Times, July 29, 1943

The sympathies of American war wives for one another in their common concern for the welfare of their husbands was amply demonstrated this week when Mrs. Steve Dolak, Griffith war wife, received 280 letters, telegrams and telephone calls from other war wives in all parts of the nation advising her that her husband is being held a prisoner by the Nazis.



Pfc. Steve Dolak

Mrs. Dolak received the many messages following a Thursday night broadcast by short-wave from Berlin, Germany, on which her husband, Pfc. Steve Dolak, spoke briefly to tell her he was being held a prisoner but not to worry. Mrs. Dolak was not tuned to the station, however, and did not hear her husband talk.



Pfc. E. Klemoff

Officially, however, the broadcast was recorded by Walter Duncan, 158 Hicks street, Brooklyn, N. Y., a government listener, who



Mrs. Steve Dolak

said her husband broadcast the following statements:

"Darling, I am well and safe. Please don't worry. I am treated good and the food is okay. Will write soon. Elmer is not with me."



Unofficially Mrs. Dolak received the 280 messages from other war wives in states as far away as Washington and New York advising her that they had heard the broadcast and thought she might like to know the whereabouts of her husband, if she had failed to hear the broadcast. Long distance telephone calls were made from as far distant a state as New York by sympathetic war wives.

Elmer, referred to by Pfc. Dolak in his broadcast, was identified yesterday by Mrs. Dolak as her brother, Pvt. Elmer Klemoff, 23, who trained at the same camps and was sent overseas in the same company with her husband, Elmer, Mrs. Dolak says was not on duty when the Germans captured an American army base in southern Tunisia last February 17. He therefore was not taken prisoner along with her husband and apparently still is in active service.

Mrs. Dolak said she has received several letters from her husband since he was taken prisoner and in all messages, he has insisted he is being treated well by his captors. The last were received a week ago.

In a breakdown of the messages she received, Mrs. Dolak said she was sent 116 letters; 112 cards; 31 telegrams and 21 telephone calls.

Pfc. Dolak has been in service for more than two years and has spent one year and six months of that time in overseas duty. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Dolak, live at 4201 Delaware street, Gary. Mrs. Dolak's brother, Elmer, has been in service the same length of time.

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### HOBART SOLDIER IS FATALITY HURT

Hammond Times, July 19, 1943

Injured while swimming and diving near Savannah, Ga., Pvt. Robert Bonner, United States army, 23, Hobart, died Sunday as his wife, Myrtle, and his mother, Mrs. Clifford Bonner, raced to his bedside.

The two women were intercepted at Chattanooga, Tenn., and returned to Hobart today to await arrival of Pvt. Bonner's body.

Bonner, on maneuvers with army units from Savannah, was injured while swimming and never regained consciousness. The body probably will arrive here tomorrow with

### FLOYD CLAVIER LISTED KILLED

Hammond Times, July 29, 1943



*This is Pfc. M. Adams  
Story on Page 121*

**F. Clavier**

Mrs. Pearl Clavier, 623 Truman street, Hammond, yesterday received a war department telegram reporting the death of her son, Pvt. Floyd L. Clavier, 27, in the north African area on June 22.

A letter containing further information will follow within a few days, the message said. Pvt. Clavier was inducted into army service in March last year. He was trained at Camp Claiborne, La., and at Fort Bragg, N. C., before transfer overseas in April this year.

Before entering the armed forces, the Hammond serviceman was employed at the Great Lakes warehouse, Hammond. Two brothers, Darroll, 37, and Wilbur, 21, are expecting army induction soon. Also surviving are three sisters, Mrs. Claude Crum of Hammond, Mrs. Harold Phelps of Walkerton, Ind., and Mrs. Wayne Samuel of Florida, and two other brothers, Melvin and Walter of Hammond.

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### PARATROOPER WILLIAMS IN AFRICA

Hammond Times, July 19, 1943

Pvt. Chester Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Williams, 6743 Arkansas avenue, Hammond, is in North Africa with paratroop units, his parents have been informed. Before entering service, Pvt. Williams was employed by the Gincella company in East Chicago. His brother, Pvt. Clarence, is at Camp Swift, Tex.

funeral services tentatively set for that time.

Besides his parents and widow, Bonner is survived by a six-months-old daughter.



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# Pfc. Adams Cited for Extraordinary Courage

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Hammond Times, July 29, 1943

*This is F. Clavier  
Story on Page 123*



Pfc. M. Adams

A citation doesn't heal a hand grenade wound, but it was the best way the buddies and officers of Marine Pfc. Elton Marlin Adams, 47 Doty street, Hammond, could show him how much they thought of him.

Just 19 years old, Pfc. Adams let a live hand grenade explode in his pocket rather than risk its going off in the middle of a marching column of marine raiders near the Tenaru river on Guadalcanal last Nov. 24.

In citing him "for extraordinary courage and exceptional presence of mind while on patrol, near the Tenaru river," Adams' commanding officer, Lt. Col. Evans F. Carlson, said:

In the course of the patrol, a safety pin on a hand grenade located in the pocket of his trousers became loose and fell out, arming the grenade. Without hesitation, he dashed away from the column, at the same time yelling, "Keep away! Hand grenade going off," and attempting to pull the grenade out of the pocket.

"The grenade exploded before Adams could throw it clear, severely wounding him. His presence of mind and instantaneous action in leaving the column undoubtedly saved a number of other men from being wounded or killed."

Pfc. Adams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Adams, was graduated from Hammond high school and was employed at the American Steel foundries in Hammond before enlisting. In a recent letter home, he reported that the incident of the hand grenade left him with two wounds in his left leg, two in the left hip, and one each in his left arm and shoulder. One of his earlier messages had been typewritten by a Red Cross nurse because he was still unable to write, his mother said.

He also added, as if he had almost forgotten to mention it, that he had been awarded the Purple Heart decoration, which he said he would forward to his family as soon as possible. The Purple Heart is one of the highest awards given to men wounded while on active duty in enemy territory.

The young marine, known better as "Marlin" to Hammond friends, enlisted in the marine corps on Dec. 17, 1941, just 10 days after the attack on Pearl Harbor and just four days after he had informed his mother of his decision to join.

She remembers, with a smile, that she persuaded three of his best friends to "gang" up on him to dissuade him from the step, which she believed at the time to be foolhardy. As it turned out, she laughs, Marlin turned up on the 17th with three rather sheepish young men following after—he had joined the marine corps and they, respectively, had joined the army, the navy, and the air corps.

"He's an awful good salesman," was all they could say to explain.

A letter received by the Adams family yesterday from their 'teen-age marine veteran reports that he has recovered completely, and is on his way to join his company again. He adds that he is expecting "extensive action" soon.



# Corporal Writes Uncensored Letter on African Invasion

Hammond Times, July 6, 1943

A letter from a Hammond youth now in action in north Africa, describing in detail the part American troops played in the recent African invasion, was received here recently by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Miller Krizman, 1466 Summer street.

The letter, written by Cpl. Peter Krizman, discloses he is now serving with a full artillery unit, which fired one of the first volleys in the African campaign. Because of its interesting text and the unusual facts Cpl. Krizman has described, the letter is reprinted in full below.

Dear Mother and Dad:

Tomorrow (May 19) will be six months that I set foot on African soil. As you know we landed in Casablanca. My company did not take actual part in the invasion of Africa but we were on the heels of the force that did. We stayed in Casablanca for three months, then were transferred to Rabat, which is about 50 miles from Casablanca. We pitched camp in Rabat and brushed up on battle tactics in preparation for our initial engagement with the enemy. After spending a month in preparation, we loaded on a train and headed for action. We journeyed for six days and nights, our destination being Khroubs, Algeria. We detrained at Khroubs, but this was just the beginning of our drive.

We first saw action at Faïd Pass on March 22, the day our company fired the first volley in the war. The surrounding territory at Faïd Pass was under a constant rain of Nazi bombs. The Nazis did not know our exact position and could not locate us, although they used flares in an effort to find us. However, we flung the Nazi line in retreat and retired into bivouac about 10 miles from Gafsa. Gafsa and another town, El Guettar, were taken by the first American invasion force.

Five days later we proceeded to Maknassy, where the smoke was thicker and the blood

redder. We spent 12 days and nights hurling shells at the Nazis and Italians. Our fire was relentless. Our guns blazed continuously day and night. If anyone slept, they did it on their feet. Meanwhile the Nazis were retaliating with their 88's. You've heard about the German 88 millimeter gun, and we certainly respected its power and accuracy. Clouds of high flying Nazi planes came within range and their bombs gave us very little trouble. Eventually the Nazis ceased firing and we retired for a short period.

Now we were to move again. From Maknassy we joined another force that was to make a drive to the coast in an effort to cut the Nazis in half, thus flank them and gradually encircle them in a ring. But this action never occurred because the Nazis were aware of our purpose and retreated. We did not pursue them. Instead, we went into bivouac at Sidi Bo Zou for three days, then we were on the move again.

Now we headed north for a rest camp in Algeria. We stayed in camp five or six days, then went into action again, this time exerting final pressure to rid the Nazis of Tunisia. In this drive we supported the French troops along the Mediterranean coast on the way to Bizerte. "On to Bizerte," was the wild, passionate cry of the French. With the Americans it was a cool, calculated job. We and the French were in constant action for two weeks. Fighting ceased May 10, but the war in Tunisia was not over yet, although Tunisia and Bizerte were occupied by Americans. We took a breathing spell and then made the final push, and you all know what happened. We took prisoners galore. But the first prisoners. I saw in this war was the first night of action at Faïd Pass. They were six stolid, unconcerned Italians, who had breakfast with us the next morning. After this final drive we got which can be rightly called a well earned rest.

(Continued on next page)



I have been in Tunisia twice and in Bizerte once. I imagine Bizerte at one time was a very beautiful town with a goodly population. But now it is in complete ruins. It lies in gray ashes, powdery dust and shattered stones. Hardly a building stands upright. The town is completely leveled. Caught between the Nazis' fire and our own, even a mountain would have been reduced to a plateau.

Still a few people moved about the gray ruins, but they seemed dazed and unbelieving at the havoc the war has wrought to their city, their homes and their souls. At first one thing puzzled me about this war: Every town and village we went through seemed to be uninhabited. Only a few people would be visible walking aimlessly among the ruins. But later it dawned upon me where the people were and I did not care to think about it. They were buried in the debris, and few bodies were intact. We went through several villages in which there wasn't the remotest sign of life save green bodied flies and a few stray birds.

and Wake island during the emergency and the Asiatic Pacific campaign medal for his service in the Asiatic Pacific area, the letter said.

The latter medals will not be ready for issuance until six months after the war, at which time Garr was instructed to make application with the marine headquarters office in Washington, D. C., for the awards.

Young Garr, who was 20 when he was killed in battle against the Japanese invaders, enlisted in the United States marine corps as a Hammond high school junior, 18 years old. He would be 22 next month, on Aug. 16.

On Decoration day last May, the 1100 block on Summer boulevard was dedicated to the Hammond sergeant in memory of his high courage in the defense of his country.

## IN TUNISIAN CAMPAIGN

Hammond Times, August 1, 1943

## FATHER OF HERO RECEIVES MEDAL

Hammond Times, July 28, 1943

Mrs. J. M. Garr, 669 Gordon street, Calumet City, grandmother of the late Sgt. Robert F. Garr, Jr., who was killed in action on Wake island seven days after the Japs struck the island on Dec. 7, 1941 yesterday received the Purple Heart certificate posthumously awarded her grandson.

The certificate was addressed to Garr's father, Robert F. Garr, specialist first class, who is stationed at New York City in the fleet post office. He enlisted in the navy on the first anniversary of his son's death.

A letter accompanying the award certificate reported the purple heart medal itself is being engraved and will be forwarded within the next two months. The senior Garr, as next of kin, also is entitled to the American defense service medal for his son's service in Hawaii



R. M. Black

Lt. Robert M. Black, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Black, 1608 — 142nd street, East Chicago, is now a pilot with the only United States air force reconnaissance squadron that participated in the Tunisian campaign. On foreign service since March in north Africa, he spent 15 months as a sergeant pilot in the RAF. Lt. Black's squadron has been in actual, constant operation against the enemy since January and participated in the Battles of Kasserine Pass, Gafsa-El Guettar, and in the final phase of the campaign in the Medjez El Bab and Cap Bon sectors.



# NORTH AFRICAN STYLE SHOW

Hammond Times, August 5, 1943



Bob Thompson, 7120 Madison avenue, and his chum, Roger Boone, 7116 Madison, form a two-man fashion show of what currently is being worn in north Africa. Bob's uncle, Lt. Col. P. W. Thompson, who was stationed in Africa for over a year prior to his transfer back to the states, sent young Thompson the

German pilot's cap he is wearing and the fez displayed by Boone. It is the type worn by French Moroccan artillerymen. The pilots' hats now are seen in Africa mostly as souvenirs, rather than articles of dress, it was pointed out.

## WOUNDED LANSING MAN ASKS FOR LETTERS

Hammond Times, August 1, 1943

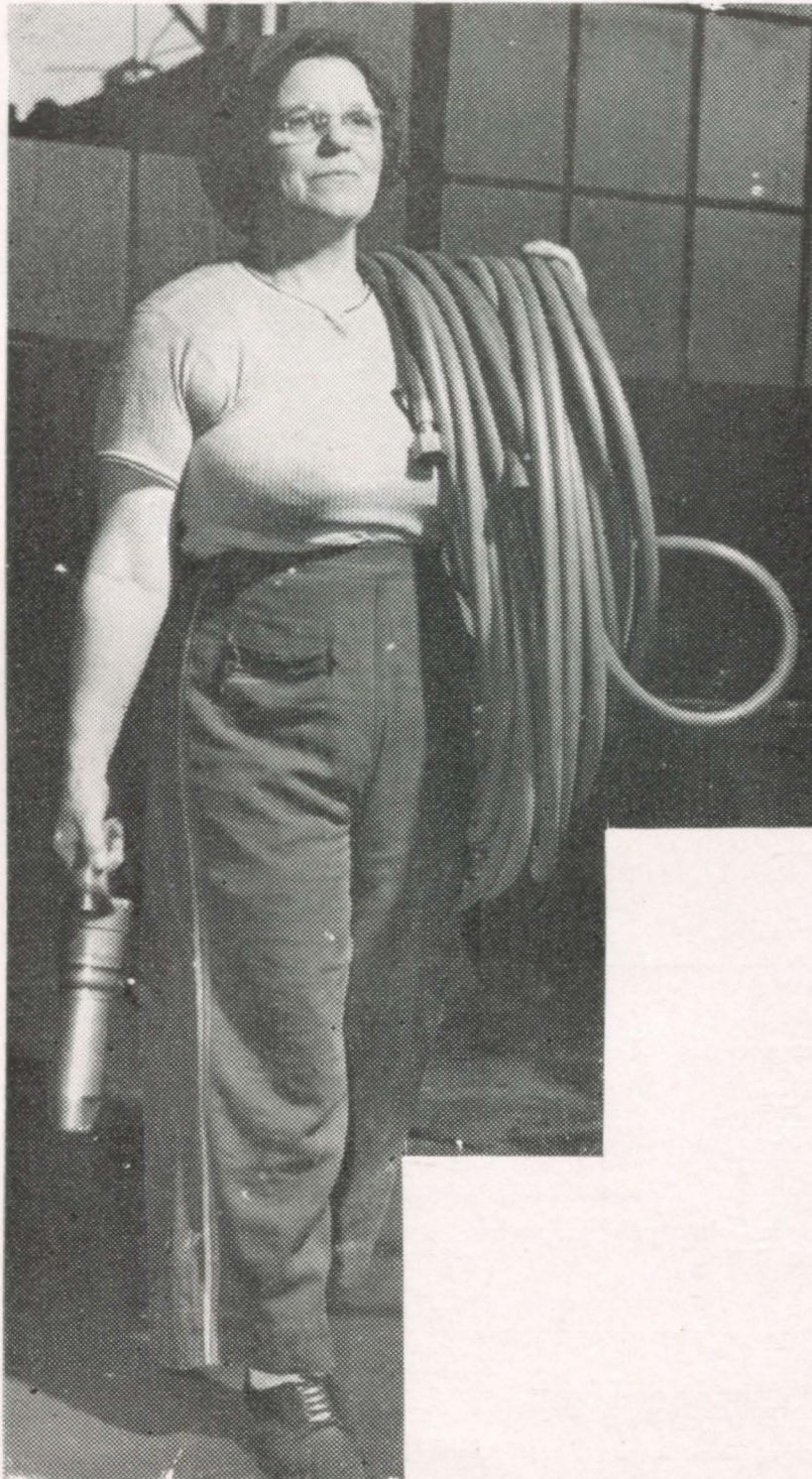
His leg shattered by a 20 millimeter shell fired from a German Stuka plane during the north African campaign, John D. Cokenour of Lansing now is recuperating in Winter's General hospital, Topeka, Kan., and would like "more than any other thing he can think of" to hear from his Calumet region friends.

The 20 m.m. shells are of a type that explode with great force the instant the shell strikes a target. Cokenhour, who was wounded May 5 and returned in June to the United States, is expected to remain under hospital supervision for a lengthy period of time.



# THREE SONS FIGHT; MOTHER SERVES

Hammond Times, Aug 5, 1943



Jim Sefton



T. Sefton



John Sefton, Jr.

With three sons in the armed services, Mrs. John Sefton, 4429 Baring avenue, East Chicago, is the fourth in her family to serve the nation at war. She is employed at the Continental Roll and Steel foundry, East Chicago. Her sons, and their branches of service, are

above, James, 27, second lieutenant army air corps in South America; lower left, Sgt. Thomas G., 24, army tank corps, Fort Knox, Ky., and lower right, Petty Officer John Jr., 19, with the Pacific merchant marine fleet.



# *Lt. Wm. C. Stauter, Missing for a Year Officially Listed as Dead*

Hammond Times Aug. 5, 1943



Lt. William C. Stauter

Reported missing in action just a year ago last month, Lt. William C. Stauter, brother of Lyle Stauter, 4605 Sheffield avenue, Hammond, was officially listed as a war casualty yesterday in a war department message to his relatives.

Lt. Stauter, 29, an army air corps pilot of a P-40 pursuit plane, was reported missing in action June 23, 1943, when his plane failed to return after a mission over Port Moresby, New Guinea. Relatives heard nothing more about him until yesterday's message advised them he is dead.

Lt. Stauter enlisted in the marine corps in 1937 and two years ago he transferred to the air corps. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the air corps reserve in October, 1941, upon completion of his training at the advanced flying school at Stockton, Calif. He sailed for overseas duty the following month.

After the battle of Java, the Hammond man was promoted to first lieutenant on February 19. Mr. and Mrs. Stauter said they last heard from him in a letter they received June

19, 1942, a week before the war department reported him missing in action.

Besides his brother here, Lt. Stauter is survived by his father, William, in Paxton, Ill., and a second brother, Dale, formerly of Hammond, but now living in Chicago.

## IN NEW GUINEA

Hammond Times, October 3, 1943

Pvt. Wilbert "Willie" Scherer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Scherer, 152nd street, Calumet City, is stationed somewhere in New Guinea in the medical corps. He received his basic training at Camp Barkeley, Tex. Later he was stationed at California, New Zealand and Australia. Formerly a student of Thornton Fractional high school, he was employed by the Inland Steel company before entering service on May 13, 1942. Today Pvt. Scherer is celebrating his second birthday in Uncle Sam's army. Friends may correspond with him by writing to this address: Pvt. Wilbert Scherer, No. 36338231, 3rd Medical Supply Depot, Advanced Platoon, Section I, Dept. II, APO No. 503, care of Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif. A recent letter to his parents states as follows:

"Dear Mom and Dad:

"Yesterday, as I was house cleaning, who should walk by but Jasper Gulotta from Calumet City. He came over last night and we had a long, long talk. He's the first one I've run into from back home.

"About a week ago some nurses arrived overseas. My long record of not seeing a white girl was broken. I saw three nurses go by in a jeep last week.

"On Nov. 2 I'll be overseas a year. How time does fly!

"Feeling swell and everything is okey.

"As ever your son,

"WILLIE."



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## From Jap Magazine: U. S. Prisoners in Chinese Camp

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Hammond Times, July 15, 1943



Taken from a Jap propaganda magazine, this picture purportedly shows American prisoners at a camp at Woosung, China. Although the Japs tried to whitewash their war prison administration after 700 prisoners had died of neglect and mistreatment, this picture shows several things, as pointed out by com-

petent observers. For instance, the prisoners are not allowed to shave or cut their hair. They are wearing Jap uniforms instead of their own clothing. The prisoners are making phonograph records for relaying messages to the United States.



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## Soviet Troops Rush to Front as Big Drive Starts

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Hammond Times, July 19, 1943



American-made trucks are used by the Red army, above, to rush troops to the front as a major Soviet drive moves rapidly toward the

key German defense point at Orel. Latest reports say that Soviet forces even may be in the suburbs of the city.

### ALL WELL IN NORTH AFRICA

Hammond Times, August 29, 1943

First Lt. George R. Petrick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Petrick, 1113 Morirs street, Hammond, has written a letter to his parents from North Africa in which the soldier says "all is well here."

Lt. Petrick's letter also disclosed that he has

met Edward Nelson, who formerly taught school at Hammond high. Both former residents of this community discussed the war situation and agreed the Allies will soon put their enemies to rout.



## U. S. ARMY'S NEW TYPE OF LITTER



Hammond Times, July 16, 1943

A new type two-man litter is demonstrated here by three United States soldiers stationed in England. The litter has advantages over the

old style two-bearer saddleback litter because it takes much of the strain off both the bearers and the casualty.

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## WINS PURPLE HEART

Hammond Times, July 16, 1943

Mrs. Claude Bapst of Gordon drive has just received word through her parents that her brother, Pvt. George Schlotterer, has been

awarded the coveted Purple Heart. At the last writing George was somewhere in Sicily.



# Coast Guardsman Installs Navy Mothers

Hammond Times, Aug. 5, 1943



The organization of East Chicagos' new Navy Mother's club was completed last night when Chief Petty Officer Lares Lovin, who is in charge of the coast guard fire boat in the Indiana Harbor ship canal, administered the oath to the officers of the group.

Other officers and members of the organiza-

tion watched the impressive ceremonies as he swore Mrs. George A. Rohram into office as commander of the club.

Mrs. J. H. Abbott served as installing marshal and the flag was held during the ceremonies by Coast Guardsman Hart.

## PROMOED AGAIN IN NAVY

Hammond Times, July 29, 1943

Robert Roy Charles, son of Mrs. Roy W. Charles, 734 — 169th street, Hammond, was promoted to aviation metalsmith second class at Norfolk, Va. A graduate of the Chicago Technical Welding school, Charles has served seven months at Panama and five in Bermuda with the navy, after enlisting in August, 1941, before the attack on Pearl Harbor. He is a former Hammond Technical high school student.



R. R. Charles



Hammond Times Aug. 5, 1943

Miss Jeanette Swanson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Swanson of Roseland, Ill., was married to Raymond C. Wood, a musician, first class, of the U. S. navy, when the groom was at home on furlough recently. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wood of Lansing, Ill., and is a survivor of the U.S.S. Lexington. Now stationed at Great Lakes naval training station, the bridegroom attended Hammond Technical high school and has many regional friends.

The wedding took place on July 31 at the home of the groom's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. William Schultz, Jr., of Harvey, Ill., with the Rev. Thomas J. Simpson of the First Presbyterian church of Hammond in charge.

Miss Swanson's attire for the informal ceremony was a two-piece white linen suit, with white accessories. Her bridal corsage was of white gladiolus and red roses.

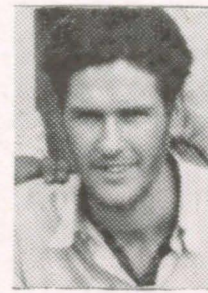
Mrs. Allen Schultz of Harvey, Ill., serving as matron of honor, appeared in a two-piece brown and yellow suit and corsage of red gladiolus and yellow tea roses. Kenneth Bird was the groom's best man.

Decorations for the war time wedding were palms and bouquets of summer flowers, arranged attractively in the living room of the Schultz home, where the ceremony took place at 8 o'clock in the evening. A reception followed at the Union hall in Harvey.

After a short honeymoon at Cedar Lake, the couple will reside with the bride's parents until Sept. 1, at which time they plan to move to their home in Evanston.

#### MEET BY TELEPHONE

Privates Victor H. Simon and Arthur A. Simon, sons of Mrs. Dora Simon, 943 Myrtle street, Whiting, talked to each other by telephone through Red Cross arrangements recently for their first contact with each other for many months. Their mother reports that the two brothers, both stationed in Africa, each did not know the other's whereabouts for three months, though they were on the "dark continent" together. They joined the army at the same time and went overseas at the same time also.



J. Starkey

Hammond Times Aug. 5, 1943

James Starkey, 19-year-old survivor of the torpedoing of his merchant marine ship, is resting at home now with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hendricks, 6821 Kennedy avenue, Hammond, on a 30-day leave following 34 days spent in an open lifeboat.

Emaciated after almost five weeks on the open seas with nothing to eat but the little he and his companions had in their kits when three Axis torpedoes smashed through the hull of his merchant ship, and the fish they could catch, the Hammond seaman rested nearly two months in the Canary islands and Spain before starting the long trip home.

"All we talked about was food—big, juicy porterhouse steaks ranked just about the biggest favorite." Imagine his surprise, on returning to the United States, to find porterhouse cuts the most-talked-of subject among civilians, too.

Starkey, who enlisted in the merchant marine on Oct. 16 and received training at Brooklyn, N. Y., before "shipping out," is still a little reticent in discussing his experience on the open Atlantic.

He can remember too clearly, perhaps, the time a week and a day after he and his buddies had been set adrift, when they sighted a transport, in the cold gray light before dawn, which failed to stop.

They stayed in their tiny craft for 26 days longer—almost a month—before they were picked up by a Spanish fishing vessel at 11:30 o'clock in the morning.

His arrival was a complete surprise to his mother, who reported, "That's just like Jim—he'd never let me know when he was coming. He likes the surprise better than anything else." There had been no word from the young seaman for five months.



# Ten Whiting Boys Overseas; Pose For Mothers' Day Photo For 'Moms'

Hammond Times, Aug. 5, 1943



Ten Whiting boys all serving Uncle Sam in the quartermaster corps of the United States army took time from strenuous army activities to pose for the above picture on Mother's day which just now reached the home front, a bit overdue, but welcome. The letter, sent by Pfc. John Walsko to his mother, which accompanied the picture, stating "we are in New Caledonia" was not censored but the picture was cut away at the top to remove telltale background.

The boys, all graduates of Whiting high school with the exception of Al Kasperan, a George Rogers Clark graduate, have been overseas since December, 1942 in the quartermaster's corps.

Pictured above from left to right, front row, are: Pfc. Walsko, P. Herockovich, M. Kansmarquett; second row, H. Kissen, Ralph Gilman, Don Korem, Joe Hatzel and Al Kasperan; top row kneeling, L. Long and Vic Gorney.

## SURVIVOR OF USS LEXINGTON

Hammond Times Aug. 5, 1943

How he spent an hour and a half in waters of the Pacific after the ill-fated USS Lexington went to a watery grave following an attack by Japanese bombing planes was told to Hammond Kiwanians Wednesday noon by Roy Wood, musician first class, U. S. navy, a Hammond and Lansing boy.

A graduate of Hammond Tech, Wood has been in service since 1939, first serving aboard the USS Yorktown and then being transferred to the Lexington.

He was aboard the Lexington when, immediately after the Japanese "sneak" attack on Pearl Harbor, it was attacked by Jap planes, fighting them off and bringing down

10 of the 12 attackers.

At sea 46 consecutive days without making port, the Lexington again was attacked by planes off the coast of Guadalcanal May 7.

Again the vessel drove off the enemy airmen, but, hour later, an internal explosion mortally wounded the ship.

Wood, in the water an hour and a half, was picked up by the U. S. destroyer Anderson and, after several transfers of ships, reached San Diego, 25 days later. He saved only his underwear and a suit of dungarees when the Lexington went down.

Edward Hess arranged appearance of Wood before the Kiwanians.



## SCHERERVILLE YOUTH CO-PILOTS PLANE THAT HAS DOWNED 11 NAZI FIGHTERS

Hammond Times, Aug. 5, 1943



R. G. Bohny

Lt. Richard G. Bohny of Schererville, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Bohny, 12 Joliet street, today was announced in news service bulletins as the co-pilot and acting tail gunner of the "Argonaut III," a Flying Fortress which has averaged 11 Nazi planes in its last line flights over Germany.

The "Argonaut III's" 10-man crew which includes the lanky Schererville lad, chalked up their biggest haul during the highly successful bombing attack on a German rubber plant at Huls, at the head of the Ruhr valley, when four Jerries bit the dust.

After one of their most recent raids, a sear-

ing attack on military targets at Kassel in Germany, Lt. Bohny was quoted in a press dispatch from his United States bomber station in England as reporting:

"Our bomb bursts completely covered the target and started tremendous fires. The fighters were not so persistent, either, as I have seen them."

The Schererville lieutenant, 24, is the oldest of four brothers in the Bohny family. The others also are serving in the armed forces: Edward, 24, is stationed at Fort Monmouth, N. J.; Victor, 21, is at Fort Bragg, N. C., and Cyril, 19, is at Camp Lee, Va.

## HAMMOND SOLDIER IS "EXTRA" IN BRITISH FILM

Hammond Times, August 4, 1943

Pvt. Clarence Adler, 31 years old, of Hammond, Ind., is in a company of United States riflemen who will appear in the film version of Noel Coward's play, "This Happy Breed," now in production at Denham, "the Hollywood of England."

On one of the hottest days of the summer, Pvt. Adler donned a World War I uniform—heavy woolen blouse with choke collar, tin helmet, wrap leggings, full field pack and rifle—and with the rest of his company marched up and down in front of the technicolor cameras.

The scene was the peace procession through the streets of London, July 19, 1919, when

American and other Allied military contingents paraded before happy and excited English throngs.

Between rehearsals, takes and retakes, the soldiers chatted with cinema stars and technicians, wandered about the extensive movie lots and even sipped tea.

Pvt. Adler, son of Mrs. Susan Adler, 260 Highland street, Hammond, was graduated from Hammond high school. For 10 years he was in advertising sales work for Lever Brothers company at Hammond. He was inducted into the army at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, 16 months ago and trained at Fort Bragg, N. Carolina.



Hammond Times, August 4, 1943

"Ice cream! Holy smoke . . . where is it?"

These words gave four American girls their biggest thrill in north Africa recently. It all began when Joe Mason, American Red Cross field director, arrived at the Red Cross club in Algiers with news that one of the famous artillery divisions that took Bizerte was on its way back from the front.

"Why," Mason asked his aides, "couldn't we meet those boys who have been in the thick of the fight for the last three months with some ice cream?"

It meant a four-hour drive through the Atlas mountains to do the job. It also meant disrupting the whole club program for the day. But Marge Bomberger of Hammond and Larry Caldwell of Urbana, Ill., two of the club directors, agreed to take on the task.

The artillery division's bivouac area was located near a French village which had turned out, enmasse, to greet the returning heroes. Although shaving formalities were in progress when the Red Cross workers arrived, they were cut short without further ado as the workers unloaded the ice cream freezers from their trucks.

The workers used army jeeps to travel through the bivouac area announcing that ice cream would be served at the headquarters unit. Many of the soldiers, blistering under a hot African sun, thought they were being kidded and did not immediately reach the headquarters unit. It wasn't long, however, before they arrived as the word was passed along from ice cream filled mouth to watering mouths.

This was the beginning of many similar visits that since have been made to soldiers returning from active front-line fighting.

Three thousand American soldiers comprising a victorious artillery unit in north Africa were overjoyed to see a Hammond woman and her companion arrive on the dark continent recently for, with their coming, also came ice cream. This photo, furnished by the American Red Cross, shows Miss Cheshire Cox of Washington, D. C., (center) and Miss Marjorie J. Bomberger of Hammond serving the soldiers ice cream.



E. Burkhalter

Hammond Times, August 4, 1943

Ernest L. Burkhalter, 6252 Monroe avenue, Hammond, has been promoted from corporal, technician, to sergeant, technician, somewhere in the south Pacific theater of war, according to word received by his wife.

Sgt. Burkhalter, who is with the army signal corps, also was made company draftsman in place of radio work he has been doing. Before his induction into the army June 6, 1942, he was employed at the Graver Tank company, East Chicago.

#### RETURNS TO SEA DUTY



R. C. Grant

Hammond Times, August 4, 1943

Robert C. Grant, 19, petty officer third class, returned to his station at New York City, N. Y., on Saturday after spending three days at home with his mother Mrs. Cora Grant, 5711 Calumet avenue, Hammond. He enlisted in the Navy last November and received training at Farragut, Ida., and at San Diego, Calif., before starting overseas service.

His brother, John R. Grant, 17, seaman first class, is also serving in the navy, somewhere in the Pacific battle area. He enlisted two weeks before his brother.



## HARBOR LIEUTENANT, WAR PRISONER IN GERMANY, WRITES HE IS 'WELL'



**Lt. Koves**

Hammond Times, August 8, 1943

"I am all in one piece, feeling very healthy and so far have been getting along very well," was the word from Lt. William Joseph Koves, a prisoner of war in Germany, to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Koves, 4847 Euclid avenue, Indiana Harbor.

A member of the army air corps, Koves was taken prisoner May 29, when he was shot down over France and had not been heard from until a few days ago when his parents received a card mailed June 26.

Before hearing directly from their son, however, Mr. and Mrs. Koves had received a telegram from the war department informing them that he was missing in action, and later had received about 300 letters from short wave radio enthusiasts who had heard him broadcast from a German prison camp.

On the card mailed in June, Lt. Koves wrote:

"As you should know by now I am a prisoner of war deep in Germany. I was shot down over France so I've managed to see quite a bit of Europe. I also had a chance to see Paris—courtesy of the German government. That's all I can write except to tell you not to worry about me."

A graduate of Washington high school, Koves, whose father is a lieutenant in the East Chicago fire department, was graduated from Washington high school, and then attended the Indiana university extension division. He was graduated with a degree in chemistry from Indiana university and later was a chemical engineering student at Purdue university for two years.

He has been in the army for more than two

years and received his silver wings and commission at Hondo, Tex., after being graduated from navigators school.

Following his graduation he was sent to Dow Field, at Bangor, Me., and from there went to England, where he was stationed the last time his parents heard from him before receiving word that he had been taken prisoner. He left the United States sometime after April 29, 1943.

A graduate of the school of nursing at St. Luke's hospital, his wife, Ethel, now lives in Chicago.

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## REISDORFER IN BRITAIN

Hammond Times, August 8, 1943

August Reisdorfer, brother of Mrs. A. B. Trimbur, 132 Ruth street, Calumet City, has arrived safely in England and relays a "hello" to his friends in Hammond and Calumet City, where he made his home with his sister before leaving for the service. In 1940, on a visit with his family in Luxemburg and France in Europe Reisdorfer was ordered out of the continent by the Nazis with the alternatives only of the German army or of a concentration camp.

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## GARY SOLDIER GETS AIR MEDAL OAK LEAF CLUSTER

Hammond Times, August 8, 1943

Staff Sgt. Nick Matulis, 3781 Georgia street, Gary, has been awarded the air medal and oak leaf cluster in lieu of a second air medal for heroic action in the southwest Pacific. Lt. Gen. George C. Kenney, commander of the Allied air forces in the area, made the awards to Matulis among 247 officers and enlisted men.

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## Keenan Visits in Ivanhoe

Lt. James Keenan and wife of Chicago, visited the Frank Church family of Ivanhoe over the week-end, after which they left for San Jose, Calif., where he is a member of the navy medical corps.



## AIR ACE SAFE; PAL INJURED



Hammond Times, August 6, 1943

"Buddies" of long standing, Lt. Fred J. Wolfe, 23, of 3915 — 177th street, Hammond, veteran of 50 air battles against the Axis in North Africa, and Leonard Dalton, of Black Oak, held a reunion at St. Margaret's hospital yesterday, and decided it's really safer at the front.

Mrs. Fred Wolfe, mother of the air ace, who, doing her bit on the home front is one of the St. Margaret's hospital nurses' aides corps, watches in the picture above as her son,

beside her, greets his pal, who is recovering from an arm injury.

"Fred gets out where the bullets fly and comes home without a scratch," Dalton commented in disgust, "and I get banged up just here at home."

After 11 months' service overseas, Lt. Wolfe, flew to the United States and home last week, arriving in Hammond last Sunday for a 30-day leave.

(Continued on next page)



With him he brought the Distinguished Flying Cross, an air medal and 10 Oak Leaf clusters to go with his medal, besides a record of four enemy planes shot down in aerial battles over North African territory.

His mother took the nurses' aide course at St. Margaret's hospital so that I could feel I was helping out, too," she says. Fred is enjoying a 30-day dose of his mother's "home cookin'."

Recently cited for shooting down a Messerschmitt-109 in a combat dogfight, Lt. Wolfe will have his name and picture entered in the Ellington Field, Tex., "Hall of Heroes," according to Col. W. H. Reid, commanding officer.

Wolfe enlisted in the army air forces at Paterson Field, O., in November, 1939, and received flight training at Muskogee, Okla., Brady, Tex., and at Ellington Field. He was stationed at Glendale, Calif., before leaving for overseas in September.

#### FORMER TEACHER SERVES IN RED CROSS OVERSEAS



Doris Nelson

Hammond Times, August 9, 1943

Formerly a teacher of journalism at George Rogers Clark high school and author of "Speak Correctly," a word usage feature appeared on The Hammond Times editorial page for several years, Miss Doris E. Nelson, American Red Cross staff assistant, has arrived in England.

She will engage in Red Cross class administrative work in England. A graduate of the University of Illinois, she had taught at Case, Dundee and Park Ridge, Ill., before coming to Hammond. A brother, Ervin W., lives in Lynn Center, Ill.

#### THREE BROTHERS IN SERVICE



C. Blackman

Hammond Times, August 9, 1943

Cpl. Charles Blackman, 22, brother of Mrs. Norbert Weiss, of Hammond, is stationed in Brazil, South America, after 10 months of army air forces service. He was promoted to his present rank about two weeks ago, following seven months' overseas duty.

A former Cities Service company employe, he enlisted in October, 1942, and was stationed at Camp Luna, New Mexico, before his overseas transfer.

His two brothers, Pvt. Clarence and Pfc. Fred, also are in the army air force. Clarence, a former Chicago and Calumet district transit company bus driver, has been stationed in Camp Pinedale, Fresno, Calif., since he was called to duty last February. His wife, Lillian, is living near him in Fresno.

Fred, formerly employed at the Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing company, was promoted to private first class at Chanute Field, Ill., on his 19th birthday last March 15. He currently is stationed at Ephrata air base, Wash.

#### COMMEND WORK OF LT. WALPOLE

In a letter to Mrs. Lena Walpole, 18331 Sherman street, Assistant Secretary of War Robert C. Patterson, expressed his deepest sympathy and stated "the purple heart has been awarded posthumously to your son, First Lt. Edward J. Walpole, who sacrificed his life in defense of his country."

In another letter recently received, H. H. Arnold, commanding general of the army air





Lt. Walpole

Hammond Times, August 9, 1943

force said: "It has come to my attention that conscientious, tireless endeavor aided Lt. Walpole to graduate from training school at Turner Field, Albany, Ga., with a praiseworthy record. He demonstrated a high sense of duty from the outset of his career as an officer and proved that he was earnestly desirous of contributing his utmost to the cause for which we now fight."

G. A. Marshall, chief of staff of the army also commended the deceased as an outstanding officer, in his letter of sympathy to Mrs. Walpole.

The award which Mrs. Walpole received this week was issued on July 23.

The young officer was reported missing on Nov. 14 and was reported killed on Nov. 15 in a crash at sea in the south Pacific from anti-aircraft fire. He was not reported officially killed in action till July 15. Although his mother makes her home with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Page of Sherman street, they lived in East Chicago for many years.

## REPEATS HIS GAFSA EXPLOIT

Hammond Times, August 9, 1943

First soldier to enter Troina after American troops had overcome seemingly impregnable mountainous fortifications to capture the German held town on Sicilian front was an East Chicago youth, Lt. Everett L. Booth. H. R. Knickerbocker, war correspondent for the Chicago Sun, in a dispatch marvels at Lt.

Booth's unperturbed attitude in taking the desperately-defended town in the face of a heavy counterattack and his nonchalance in quietly seating himself in the town's only undamaged barbershop for a shave after his troops had captured the town.

But, while Lt. Booth's most recent feat is good news to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Booth, 818 — 145th street, it is nothing unusual, they point out. Their son has a habit of being first into American-captured towns in the North African war. He also was first to enter Gafsa when that stronghold fell March 17 in the Tunisian campaign.

Lt. Booth was among the first men to be drafted in East Chicago in 1941. He became a private, first class, shortly after his induction and spent nine months in training at Camp Shelby, Miss., before he was assigned to the army's finance division.

He held the finance post five months, was subsequently transferred to officers' training school at Fort Benning, Ga., and Indiantown Gap, Pa., and still later was sent to England and Scotland. He arrived in North Africa on Nov. 14.

He now is a member of the famous "I" company of one of the most celebrated American divisions, Maj. Gen. Terry Allen's Fighting First.

In the war correspondent's own words, the capture of Troina was not child's play.

"In order to cover their withdrawal from the town, "Knickerbocker wrote, "the Germans launched a fierce counterattack that made it seem their forces were very much bigger than ours. But Lt. Booth, leader of 'I' company and the first man to enter Troina, seemed entirely unperturbed at the violence of the German defense. After having stormed the town and marched his troops into it, he swiftly surveyed the situation, disposed his troops and nonchalantly seated himself in the town's only remaining barbershop for a shave.

"I later talked to Lt. Booth," the correspondent continued, "and he told me, 'it's an old custom for 'I' company to be first. We were first at Enna, first at Nicosia and first here. For my part I found the Germans did a tough job of holding out the way they did. But it just got too hot for them.'"

Continued on next page



Lt. Booth, according to the dispatch, gave much credit for the Allied victory to American artillery and machine gun units.

"I wasn't surprised at our ultimate victory but I was surprised when Germans counter-attacked," Lt. Booth said. "It was evidently to make us think they were going to hold out many more days. When they attacked they went all-out and showed no signs of being tired."

In taking the town, Lt. Booth led "I" company at first cautiously and then at break-neck speed when the Germans finally were routed Triona was a crumbled mass of ruins after the American attack and only a few dozen villagers had remained behind to greet the victorious troops as they marched into the captured Sicilian post.

for expert rifle marksmanship, the other for outstanding bayonet practice.

A member of the medical corps of the army, Frank received his basic training at Fort Benning, Ga., and Camp Barkeley, Texas. Sent overseas last October, he was stationed in both England and north Africa, where he was among the first American troops to land in the African invasion.

Frank was promoted to corporal during his service in Africa. He has mailed three souvenir wallets and African silver jewelry home to his family.

#### BROTHERS IN SERVICE



F. Sidote



P. Sidote

Hammond Times, August 11, 1943

Philip and Frank Sidote, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Carmello Sidote, 530 Greenbay avenue, Calumet City, both were promoted recently, Philip making the jump from private first class to sergeant, and Frank from private first class to corporal.

Philip, a member of the army intelligence division, received his basic training at Camp Robinson, Ark., from where he was transferred to Fort Custer, Mich. He remained at Fort Custer for six months until his recent transfer to Arizona, where his duties include the processing of prisoners of war at the internment camp at Coolidge, Ariz. He received two medals in his basic training period, one

#### ROBERT HASEK OVERSEAS

Hammond Times, August 11, 1943



R. G. Hasek

Ship Fitter Robert G. Hasek, a third class petty officer, is now stationed somewhere in South America, according to word received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Hasek, 618 Conkey street, Hammond.

Hasek enlisted in the navy last September and received his "boot" training at the naval training station at Great Lakes, Ill. From there he was sent to Norfolk, Va., then to Boston, Mass., and then to New York City, from where he sailed in February.

A former student at Hammond high school, Hasek was employed as a fireman by the Monon railroad company prior to his enlistment.



## **'ZACK' CORNEA AWARDED SILVER STAR FOR SAVING TANK UNDER FIRE**



**Lt. Z. J. Cornea**

Hammond Times, August 11, 1943

First Lt. Zachary "Jack" J. Cornea, formerly of Hammond and brother of Victor Cornea, 509 West 140 street, East Chicago, now with the first armored division of the fifth American army in north Africa, has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action during the Tunisian campaign.

The citation reads:

"His platoon occupied a defensive position in a wadi (a dry river bed) which became the target for an extremely heavy concentration by enemy 240 millimeter howitzers. One of the tanks stalled in an open, exposed position.

"Lt. Cornea unhesitatingly ordered his own tank position in front of the stalled vehicle. Then he completely disregarded his own welfare by dismounting, and while under heavy enemy fire, prevented the destruction of a valuable piece of government property.

"The courage, devotion to duty, and complete disregard for his own welfare displayed by Lt. Cornea reflect great credit upon himself and the command and are highly commendable."

A graduate of both Hammond high school and Indiana university, Bloomington, Lt. Cornea was inducted in July, 1940. He received his tank division training at Fort Knox, Ky., and was transferred to Fort Dix., N. J., two months before his transfer overseas in May, 1942.

He was stationed in England and Ireland before joining American troops in the African campaign. He was commissioned a second lieutenant at Fort Knox and received his first lieutenantcy in England.

His wife, Pauline, lives at Bloomington, Ind.

## **STATIONED IN SOUTH PACIFIC**



**J. L. Wainright**

Hammond Times, August 11, 1943

James L. Wainright, seaman first class, husband of Beatrice Wainright, 7232 Osborne road, Hammond, left for the "Sea-Bees" service last December, was trained at Camp Endicott, R. I., and Port Hueneme, Cal., and now is stationed at "Island X" in the south Pacific ocean. Before enlisting in the navy construction battalion, he was employed at the Inland Steel company, East Chicago.

## **GIVES SON'S ARMY CHECK**

Hammond Times, August 12, 1943

Mrs. Bertha Shryock, 576 State street, Hammond, visited the Hammond Red Cross yesterday and gave to the Red Cross the allotment check which she had just received from the government because her son, Pfc. Leo L. Shryock is in the army.

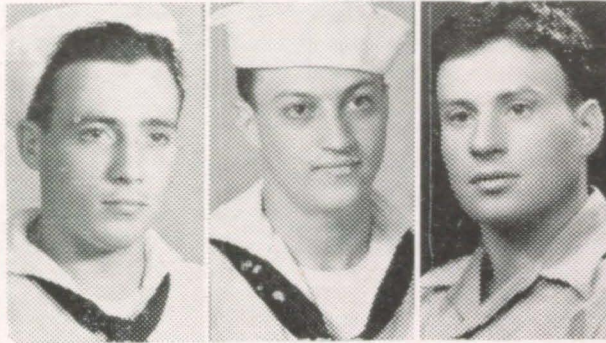
"Leo wrote me to do everything I could for the Red Cross here in Hammond. He says that the Red Cross gives prisoner of war packages and the other things Red Cross does for the boys in the German prisoner camp where he is interned are wonderful. He asked for me to help the Red Cross at home—so I am giving this money I got from the government because he is in the army."

Mrs. Shryock has had a postal card and a letter from her son since his internment.



## CALUMET CITY PARENTS ARE PROUD OF THEIR THREE FIGHTING SONS

Hammond Times, August 12, 1943



William

Paul

Jasper

Proud of their three servicemen sons are Mr. and Mrs. Sam Abate, 218 State street, Calumet City. The first to leave for the service with the U. S. Army was Jasper, who is now stationed in North Africa. Prior to his transfer abroad, he was stationed at Fort Benning, Ga., in the medical corps. His wife, the former Gloria Klawitter recently received word of his promotion to a corporal. In service for 20 months, Cpl. Abate was employed at the Indiana Harbor Belt railroad before induction.

Second to join forces with the fighting forces, is Petty Officer Third Class Paul John Abate, who is aboard a cruiser now "some-

where at sea." Paul has been in the navy for about a year and was formerly employed by the Pressed Steel Car company. He was trained at Great Lakes.

Following in the footsteps of his brother, the third son, William enlisted in the navy about a year ago. He is stationed now in the Panama Canal zone. He was also trained at Great Lakes and before being sent out was stationed in New York. Prior to enlistment William, a seaman first class, was employed by the Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad.

All three brothers were students at Thornton Fractional high school.

## HAMMOND PARATROOPER IS AMONG THE FIRST IN SICILY

Hammond Times, August 12, 1943



Sgt. W. Gaffney

Sgt. J. Gaffney

"Among the first paratroopers to land in Sicily" was the word Mrs. J. L. Gaffney, 1333 North drive, Hammond, received from her

son, Sgt. Walter Gaffney, an army paratrooper, who has been in service one year, Sgt. Gaffney wrote:

"This country is beautiful if I had time to enjoy it."

Mrs. Gaffney has two other sons fighting in Uncle Sam's forces. They are John, who has been confined to a base hospital for five months on the Solomon islands, is a sergeant, and Clifford, a merchant seaman on the Atlantic. John is a veteran of two years in service and Cliff, whose wife, Eleanor, resides with her parents on Wallace road, Hammond, has been assigned to a ship for four months.



## OVERSEAS AS A DOCTOR



**Lee Hickman**

Hammond Times, August 12, 1943

Serving overseas for one year as a doctor in a base hospital in the southwest Pacific, First Lt. A. Lee Hickman, Jr., was promoted to a captain's rank recently.

A graduate of Indiana university medical school, Capt. Hickman interned at Ball Memorial hospital at Muncie, Ind., and enlisted in the service immediately after his training.

With their 16-month-old son, A. Lee Hickman III, Mrs. Hickman is residing with the captain's parents, Dr. and Mrs. A. Lee Hickman, 34 Indi-Illi park, Hammond, for the duration.

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## AWARD BESTOWED POSTHUMOUSLY

Louisville Times, Louisville Kentucky, Aug. 14, 1943

Sgt. James E. Boswell, Jr., who was reported killed in action at Attu, in the Aleutians, May 29, has been awarded the order of the Purple Heart, according to word received yesterday by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Boswell, of 328 Silver street.

Mrs. Boswell received a telegram from Secretary of War Stimson, Wednesday telling her of the award and later in the day she also received the certificate lauding Boswell's bravery.

Before leaving for action in Attu, Boswell was stationed at Fort Ord, California. He had been in the service since February 14, 1940, at which time he enlisted from Chicago, where he was employed with the Ford Motor Co.

Boswell was reared in Louisville and attended school there. He was a graduate of Male High School.

## BEST ON LEAVE



**D. E. Best**

Hammond Times, August 15, 1943

D. E. Best, coxswain, U. S. navy, brother of V. E. Best, 6644 Van Buren avenue, Hammond, is spending a 10-day leave at home from Camp Perry, Va. He believes the leave a pre-embarkation treat. He enlisted in the navy "Seabees" in November and was called to active duty in April. He has completed boot and technical training at Camp Perry and expects to be transferred to California for overseas embarkation on his return to camp.

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## PROMOTED TO SERGEANT



**Karl Eckert**

Hammond Times, August 15, 1943

After serving two years and seven months in the Panama Canal Zone, Cpl. Karl Eckert, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Eckert, 715 Logan street, Hammond, has been promoted to a sergeant, according to an announcement received by his parents.

Sgt. Eckert now is stationed at Camp Rucker, Ala. He is a graduate of Hammond Technical high school and has been cited several times for meritorious conduct.



## FIGHTER KELLY HOME

Hammond Times, August 15, 1943

Donald F. Kelley, 22, is a Hammond marine who loves a fight better than a duck does water. Donald, who is a first class private, returned to Hammond this week after taking part in many of the major battles of the south Pacific. Although the young hero was reluctant to talk about the south Pacific battles, he did exclaim:

"Sure I'm anxious to get back and take another whack at those Japs!" The Hammond marine was hospitalized for malaria fever in a hospital overseas, but is in fighting trim again. Donald is the son of Mrs. J. D. Kelley, 547 Highland street, Hammond. He is a graduate of Hammond Tech and has been on the fighting front for most of the two years he has been away from Hammond.

Proudly displaying the southwest Pacific battle ribbons on his blouse, Donald will return to San Diego, Calif., Sept. 5. He enlisted in the marines reserve five years ago while in high school.

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## BROTHER, SISTER OVERSEAS

Hammond Times, August 15, 1943

Word of their safe arrival overseas has just come to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rheins of Cedar Lake, parents of Sgt. Francis Rheins and his sister, Lt. Dorothea, army nurses' corps.

Sgt. Rheins, who was with the barrage balloon battalion at Camp Tyson, Tex., is now stationed somewhere in north Africa and his sister, who volunteered in May, 1942, has just arrived in Australia. Prior to going overseas she was stationed at the Walter Reed General hospital, Washington, D. C.

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## YANK HELPS HUNGRY CHILD

Comforting a hungry and unhappy 14-month-old waif named Josephine, in Palermo, Sicily, is Pvt. Joseph Mole of Jamestown, N. Y. Mole's dad was born in Palermo. The doughboy arranged with relief authorities to care for the child.—Signal Corps Radio-photo.)—(International)

## INDIANA AMONG STATES HELPING SOLDIER TAXES

Hammond Times, August 18, 1943

A survey by the federation of tax administrators recently concluded showed that the 44 state legislatures which convened this year have joined with the federal government in granting to service men some form of relief from income taxes.

The survey revealed that Arkansas, California, Indiana, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota and Wisconsin exempted all pay for service in the armed forces with North Dakota exempting also pay of those in the merchant marine.

Minnesota and Oregon attached limitations of \$2,000 and \$3,000, respectively, to income tax exemptions for service pay. Maryland exempted from its gross income tax all amounts received as a pension, annually or other allowances for personal injury or sickness resulting from military service.

Eight states, Arizona, California, Idaho, Indiana, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Dakota and Wisconsin, extended the deadline for filing returns on income other than service pay and allowances. The extension was until the service man was discharged or until six months after the end of the war. A three-months' extension was voted in Maryland and a 12-months' extension in Wisconsin.

In Montana and Vermont collection of income taxes was deferred if the taxpayer's ability to pay was "impaired" or "materially affected" by the service.

Most states will forgive interest and penalties on delayed income tax payments, although Arizona will charge six per cent interest a year.

In the District of Columbia, congressional action is necessary to provide relief for district residents in military and naval service. As yet no hearings have been conducted by either the senate or house district committees on bills pertaining to tax relief.



**SGT. NICK CHINTIS 'SAFE, WELL' AS  
PRISONER OF JAPANESE NEAR TOKYO**



**Thomas**

Hammond Times, August 15, 1943

Word that one of his two sons in service is well and safe, although a prisoner of the Japs in Tokyo, was received this week by Peter Chintis, 610 — 165th street, Hammond.

The son is Sgt. Nick Chintis, manager of the Hammond high school basketball squad in 1935. Sgt. Chintis' wife, Winifred, is now with the women's marine corps in New River, N. C., and his brother, Thomas, is machinist's mate, third class, in the navy. Thomas now is stationed in San Diego, Cal.

The father said his prisoner-son sent a card from the Jap camp declaring:

"I am well and safe in Japan. My health is excellent. I have had no news from the family since last December. How are you and the family."

Previously, on July 30, a short-wave message via Tokyo from Ensign Rhodes of Fresno, Cal., in which the ensign asked that the father of Sgt. Nick Chintis of Silver City, N. M., where he attended Mexico State Teachers' college, be notified that his son is safe.

Brother Thomas has been in service for more than a year. He also starred in high school athletics, playing football, basketball and track.

**FRANK MASON OF HAMMOND—NAVY VET**

Hammond Times, August 16, 1943

A veteran of the navy and World War I, Frank C. Mason, brother of F. W. Mason, 422 Florence street, Hammond, yesterday was reported missing in action by Rear Admiral Randall Jacobs, chief of naval personnel at Arlington, Va.

The report added: "The department appreciates your great anxiety, but details are not now available and relay in receipt must necessarily be expected to prevent possible aid to our enemies."



**F. C. Mason**

Mason enlisted in August last year to begin his second period of navy service at the age of 41. Employed as a steamfitter in Hammond since 1926, he was stationed in Scotland during the winter and has since been on active sea duty.

His brother reports word was received from Mason three weeks ago. He had made his home in Hammond with F. W. Mason, and has another brother, Clayton, 32, of Oskaloosa, Ia., who is serving in the army.

**CPL. HAMNIK IN ENGLAND**

Hammond Times, August 16, 1943



**Hamnik**

John Hamnik, 2719 Kenwood street, Hammond, received a letter today from his brother, Cpl. Mike Hamnik, from England. An interesting feature of his letter is that all English drinks are served warm, and this includes milk and beer. He also stated that the English like American cigarettes and "really go to them." Cpl. Hamnik is a cook and says he really can cook some "fancy dishes." His wife, Mary, is a resident of East Chicago. While her husband is overseas, Mrs. Hamnik is doing her bit working in a war industry.



## TWO HAMMOND MEN ACCLAIMED AS HEROES



Pvt. N. W. Clark

Hammond Times, August 24, 1943

Two Hammond soldiers today were acclaimed for heroism.

One got himself a German airplane. The second saved a dog.

While news dispatches from Allied headquarters in north Africa reported that Sgt. William Wright of 5514 Beale street, Hammond, was credited there with shooting down an enemy airplane in American aerial raids on the Naples area, another United Press dispatch from the same area told how Pvt. Norman W. Clark, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Flod Clark, 249 Oakwood avenue, Hammond, plunged into churning waters to save a mongrel pup, Queenie the ship's mascot, at a time when even lives come cheap.

It happened in a Mediterranean port, when a ship caught fire near Clark's transport, which was tied to another ship.

The two transports headed for open water to avoid the flames, and, in the excitement, Queenie fell overboard.

Clark plunged into the water between the two ships, varying from 5 to only two feet. Although the swirling waters threatened to suck him into the propellers, he battled until he could grasp the pup and swim to a rope ladder.

His buddies, admirer of the pup are boosting him for a medal.

Miss Lora Jean Harlan, 6043 Harrison street, his fiancée was not surprised at the

tidings. She recalled somewhat with chagrin, when, at a formal dance, he left her side to rescue a pup two boys were about to throw into a lake and drown, back in his civilian life days. He carried the pup home attired in his formal clothing, to keep it until he found a home for the animal. He has a dog pet of his own, now on a vacation trip with his parents, who do not as yet know of his exploit.

## STEVE KAMINSKY OF ROBERTSDALE PRISONER OF JAPS

Hammond Times, August 24, 1943



S. Kaminsky

After four months of anxious waiting and wondering when their son, Steve, was reported missing in action somewhere in the south Pacific fighting zone, the telegram from the war department received just yesterday by Mr. and Mrs. James Kaminsky, 1539 Myrtle avenue, reporting Steve a prisoner of the Japanese in the Philippines was at that, most welcome.

Steve enlisted in Chicago, Jan. 29, 1941, in the coast artillery and was sent for training to Angle Island, Calif. He was next transferred to Ft. Mills on Corregidor where he was in service at the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the Philippines, Dec. 7.

The last word the family received direct from him came April, 1942 and in May of the same year he was reported missing in action.

A student at St. John's Parochial school in Whiting and a graduate of the Hammond Technical high school, Steve was cheer leader for Tech when the high school won the state basketball championship in 1940.



## HERO OF THIRTEEN BATTLES VISITS SERVICEMEN'S CENTER

Hammond Times, Aug. 25, 1943



Getting well-earned relaxation at the Hammond Servicemen's Center when this picture was snapped was Tech. Sgt. Howard Miller of Michigan City, who says he participated in 13 battles in this war, downing 15 Jap planes and wiping out three Jap machine gun nests.

Sgt. Miller, who was visiting friends in Hammond when he dropped in at the center, is flight chief and radio man on a B-25 bomber. Previously he also saw service as a gunner on a B-17 flying fortress.

Miller says he participated in the battles of Tunisia and Guadalcanal and was at Casablanca when the president and Churchill con-

ferred on invasion plans. During one battle on Guadalcanal, the soldier said, a B-25 was "shot out from under me." When he bailed out, Miller took a tommy gun along with him and, upon landing, wiped out three Japanese machine gun nests nearby.

He has been awarded the army's medal of honor for saving his captain's life during one of the raids. He is shown playing ping pong with Miss Helen Grills, 6324 Van Buren avenue, Hammond, a servicemen's center helper, while Pvt. William Ryckma, 4421 Clark street, Hammond, an M. P. from Camp Sutton, N. C., looks on.

## TWO HAMMOND AIRMEN GET DFC DECORATIONS

Hammond Times, Aug. 25, 1943

Two Hammond airmen serving overseas in northwest Africa with the army air forces have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, according to an announcement from the war department today.

They are First Lt. John A. Perrone and First

Lt. Fred J. Wolfe.

The decorations were awarded to air force officers and enlisted men who saw action during the Tunisian campaign and who made flying missions over Sicily.





M. McCready

Hammond Times, August 25, 1943

Monty McCready, machinist's mate 1/C, left Thursday, Aug. 19, with sealed orders for his new station at Great Lakes, Ill. He has been stationed in Panama six years and expected to return there after his 30-day furlough. A wire from Washington notified him of his transfer and he received his sealed orders later.

Going into his 17th year of service in the United States navy, Machinist's Mate McCready has been stationed in California, England, China and on the Atlantic. He has been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John McCready at 4828 Indianapolis boulevard, East Chicago.

## HOME ON LEAVE

— Editorial —

Hammond Times, Aug. 25, 1943

"We get mad when they don't come over."

The speaker was Coxswain Leo Meskis, six feet, two inches of fighting naval navigator and he was talking about the Jap Zero and Mitibushi-99 planes. Having left his ship in the southwest Pacific after 18½ months of active service, Meskis is home on leave in Calumet City, waiting until a new ship is ready on the Pacific coast.

"The Japs are plenty tough," he continued, "and when they start after one of our ships they don't care what their losses are. But our boys are just a little tougher and they don't give a hoot either. The American flyer is the greatest combat aviator in the world. Our

men are better than our planes, but the planes are getting better. We will blow the Japs out of the war in two years."

The coxswain is the son of John Meskis, owner of the Calumet Dairy company, and has two brothers in service, Steve in New Guinea and George in Texas. He has been in two important naval engagements in the Guadalcanal area.

"In New Caledonia," he said, "it was hot in the daytime and so cold at night we slept under two blankets with netting over the bed to keep the half-frozen mosquitoes from crawling under the covers to get warm and even at the same time."

## MOTHER AWAITS NEWS FROM SON

Hammond Times, August 25, 1943

A Calumet City mother is anxiously awaiting for news of her son, Joseph, 20, a second class seaman in the coast guard, who was reported as one of the survivors following the explosion of a small whale-boat in Delaware bay, off Port Norris, N. J. on Monday.

She is Mrs. Mary Alishio, of 606 Ingraham avenue.

Press dispatches state that the Calumet City youth told police at Port Norris that a companion, Joseph Andrews, 25, of Chicago, also seaman second class, disappeared as they clung to driftwood for more than 12 hours after they were thrown into the bay after the motor on the craft exploded.

Alishio, nearly exhausted, dragged himself ashore in the lower Delaware bay. He said the explosion set the boat and the life preservers afire when he and Andrew were returning from a brief liberty.

Reached at her home today, Mrs. Alishio said:

"I am anxiously awaiting word from the Red Cross that my son is safe, but thus far I have had no news except what newspapers have carried."



## TWIN CITY FLIER'S HAPPY REUNION BROTHERS MEET IN LONDON

Hammond Times, August 27, 1943

Two sergeants, brothers from East Chicago, put the clock back more than two years when they met for the first time at the American Red Cross Mostyn club in London last month. East Chicago was their main subject of conversation, club attendants reported, and letters from home were shared, read and reread.

Sgt. Ted Romanowski is tail gunner on a very "hush hush" squadron, but his half-brother, Sgt. Casimir Mlodzinski was immediately invited to visit his station and take a ride in Ted's pet bomber. "We rode about 500 miles," said Casimir, "and there was I sitting bank up in the nose taking in the view. I'm a mechanic in the air force. I fix the planes and Ted flies them."

These brothers should, by rights, have been on the same station together. It was all a grand mixup and this was the way of it: Casimir's outfit, when they landed overseas, was detailed to go to the same station at which Ted is serving. On the platform, in the blackout, they boarded the wrong train and went north instead. Another outfit, which should have gone north, went south that night. So the army decided it wasn't worth while to change things around and let them stay as they were.

Casimir's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Wacław Mlodzinski of 3919 Deal street, East Chicago, and Ted is a son by a former marriage. There is a sister, Irene Mlodzinski, and a brother, John Romanowski.

Back home both Ted and Casimir go in for high powered motorcycles and burn up the flat, straight roads around home. "It's as big a thrill as flying," said Ted, "because the fences fly by you and you have all that power at your command."

## CURTIS ON FURLOUGH

Hammond Times, August 24, 1943

Pfc. Dick Curtis arrived home Sunday morning to spend a 15-day furlough from Camp Bowie, Texas. He will stay with his parents.

## SPRINGGATE A CHIEF PETTY OFFICER



R. N. Springgate

Hammond Times, August 30, 1943

An 18-year-old seaman, Robert N. Springgate, a son of Chief and Mrs. R. S. Springgate, 1838 New York avenue, just received a petty officer rating of aviation ordnance mate third class upon completion of a 14 weeks course last week at the naval aviation technical training center, Norman, Okla. A graduate of Whiting High school in the 1942 class, Petty Officer Springgate is now en route to the naval aviation base at San Francisco, Calif., where he expects to be detailed to active sea duty. He enlisted in the service February, 1943.

## NOW AN ENSIGN

Hammond Times, August 30, 1943



S. Linkiewicz

Recently awarded his wings and an ensign's commission in the U. S. navy air corps at the Corpus Christi, Tex., training station, Stanley Linkiewicz, 23, son of Mrs. Pauline Linkiewicz, 666 Hirsch avenue, Calumet City, a few days ago, spent a short leave at home. He is one of Calumet City's few ensigns. A Thornton Fractional high school graduate, he has been in service nine months. A brother, Lt. Casimer Linkiewicz, is serving overseas with the marines.



## WINS OVERSEAS PROMOTION



**Sgt. J. Gorski**

Hammond Times, August 31, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. John Gorski, 6304 Columbia avenue, Hammond, received word yesterday that their son, Sgt. John Gorski, 28, who is now serving overseas, has been promoted to master sergeant.

Sgt. Gorski, who has been in service only 18 months, recently wrote his parents asking them to give friends his address so that they may write to him. His mailing address is 556th bomb squadron, A.P.O. 638, in care of the postmaster in New York City.

## BUDDIES MEET IN TROPICAL WATERS

Hammond Times, September 1, 1943

Reminiscences of their school days together in Hammond Technical high school, where both attended the same horticultural class, were exchanged recently by two sailors who met by accident while both were on active duty in the tropics.

They were Virgil E. Groat, son of Mr. and Mrs. V. A. Groat, 4925 Linden avenue, and Patrick Hensley, who is serving with the naval hospital corps. Seaman Groat, who recently received a petty officers' rating of electrician's mate, third class, served in north Africa, later returned to the states and subsequently was reassigned to sea duty somewhere in the south Pacific.

## GUADALCANAL VETERAN HOME

Hammond Times, September 1, 1943

Pfc. Elliott Dilly, 579 Gordon street, Calumet City, who has seen 10 months service with the marines on Guadalcanal, now is spending a 30-day furlough with his parents. He will return to active duty at a marine base in California on Sept. 24.

## TAIL GUNNER IN ENGLAND



**Sgt. E. J. Heintz**

Hammond Times, September 1, 1943

Sgt. Edward J. Heintz, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Heintz, 417 — 154th street, Calumet City, is serving in England as a tail gunner on a Flying Fortress bomber.

A former employee at the General American Transportation company, Hammond, Sgt. Heintz has been overseas more than a year. His father is a detective sergeant on the Calumet City police force.

## READY FOR OVERSEAS DUTY



**B. Zyglowicz**

Hammond Times, September 1, 1943

After completing training aboard a Flying Fortress at Dyersburg, Tenn., and prepared for overseas combat duty, Staff Sgt. Bernard Zyglowicz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Zyglowicz of East Chicago, serves as an armored-gunner.

His duties are to keep the guns and armament on the plane in repair and top-notch working order, while as a gunner he may be placed in any of three positions: in the tail, ball-turret, or the waist of the bomber.



## PROMOTED IN NAVY AT HAWAII

Hammond Times, September 1, 1943



Ralph Jaeger

Stationed overseas in the navy, Ralph Jaeger, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Jaeger, 4833 Elm avenue, Hammond, was promoted to petty officer, second class, at Hawaii.

In service about a year, Jaeger was employed at the Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing company, Hammond, before entering the service. He was graduated from Thornton Fractional high school, Calumet City.

## SERVING SOMEWHERE IN ALASKA



A. Kulczyk

Hammond Times, September 1, 1943

Anthony T. Kulczyk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Barney Kulczyk, 15 — 155th place, Calumet City, has been promoted to a staff sergeant at the army air corps base in Alaska where he is serving as a mechanic. He has been in Alaska since Nov. 2, 1942.

Sgt. Kulczyk, who was inducted on June 21, 1941, was employed by the General American company prior to entering service. He has a sister, Dorothy Kulczyk, who lives at home with here parents.

## KALWA STAFF SGT. MISSING IN ACTION



S/Sgt. H. Kalwa

Hammond Times, September 1, 1943

A telegram from the adjutant general Friday informed Wilbur Kalwa, 824 Truman avenue, Calumet City, that his brother, Staff Sgt. Herbert A. Kalwa, has been missing in action over Gelsenkirchen, Germany, since Aug. 12.

An army gunner, the Calumet City staff sergeant served as middle gunner on an American Flying Fortress during Allied raids over Axis territory. He was engaged to Miss Marie Glaszewski of Calumet City, in nurses' training at the South Chicago hospital, according to his family.

Kalwa, a Thornton Fractional high school student, enlisted in the army air forces about a year ago, was trained at Miami Beach, Fla.; Salt Lake City, Utah, and Pyote, Tex., before shipment overseas to England to begin active duty.

His father, Albert, lives with his brother, Wilbur and family in Calumet City, as does his younger sister Lois. Other members of the missing sergeant's family include two other brothers, Henry at Camp Shelby, Miss., and Donald at Joliet, Ill.; and three sisters, Mrs. Herbert Hart, 32 Harding street, Calumet City; Mrs. John Judd of Chicago Heights; Mrs. Romaine French of Baton Rouge, Fla., formerly of Hammond.

Kalwa was a war plant worker before entering the service. The telegram added that if further details or other information of his status are received, Calumet City relatives will be "promptly notified."



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# SON BUYS ONE THOUSAND DOLLAR WAR BOND FROM MOTHER

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Hammond Times, September 3, 1943



"Whew-w-w-!" Mrs. Glen Krager, president of the ladies' society of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, had reason to exclaim as her son, Pvt. W. E. Krager, 21, and his bride of three months presented cash for purchase of a \$1,000 war bond at Hammond's Hohman theater bond

sales booth. The son, who is a student in army engineering classes at Oklahoma A. & M. college, sold his automobile and, with his bride, looking on admiringly as shown above, purchased the \$1,000 bond with the proceeds. The couple were married May 29 and the bride lives at 721 Mulberry street.



# ON THE HOME FRONT

Hammond Times, September 3, 1943



Here are Mrs. B. F. Mills of 537 Mulberry street, Hammond, and her five-year-old son, Robin, picking tomatoes from an eight-foot vine growing in the flower boarder of their back yard. If Robin resists the temptation of doing a bit of home-canning on the sly, these tomatoes might well find their way to the canned-goods competition of the Flower and

Victory Garden festival to be held in the Civic Center on Saturday and Sunday, September 11 and 12. However, Mrs. Mills' interest is more than that of an entrant, for she has been named general chairman and has the responsibility of planning and organizing the festival, which is being sponsored by the board of park commissioners.



# FARMERS WEIGH INJUNCTION SUIT "GHOST CITY"

## NATIONAL HOUSING AGENCY ADMITS PROJECT FAILURE, BUT WORK CONTINUES

Hammond Times, September 5, 1943

How to stop waste of tax money, vitally needed for the war effort, when Washington has decreed its expenditures seemed to be the issue Saturday as official Washington admitted that Kingsford Heights, the \$13,000,000 Indiana "ghost town" 10 miles from LaPorte, is not needed.

A group of farmers in LaPorte county have consulted an attorney as to the legality of seeking an injunction in federal court against continuation of construction work at Kingsford Heights.

They contend that the government would be compelled to come into court to defend the continued work and that in such a suit rests the only apparent way of stopping the waste of funds. While suit against the government would be impossible, they say attorneys have ruled, legal action may be possible against the contractors and designers. Such a legal action would bring the government into the defense picture as the principal behind the sued contractors.

### *NHA Admits Failure*

The admission that Kingsford Heights cannot be utilized, by the National Housing administration, seemed to make the decision unanimous. However, at the same time, work continues unceasingly on more units for Kingsford Heights. Construction of the 12-room school building is in the final stages and construction of the "business section" in the center of the so-called "model town" also continues.

Contractors are scheduled soon to begin work on a \$3,000,000 storm sewer for the town after its designers concluded the sanitary sewer system, already in, was insufficient.

### *Van Nuys To Ask Probe*

United States Senator Frederick Van Nuys visited the "mirage city" Saturday and added his voice to Indiana members of the house of

representatives in demanding a probe of the the why and wherefores of the town's construction, with an attempt to fix the blame for the waste of public funds.

He inspected the 2,974 housing units, the complete waterworks, the street lighting system which lights only deserted sidewalks and weed-grown yards, that "what I've been told is true." He paid especial attention to the 2,974 electric refrigerators, the 2,974 gas stoves, the 2,974 metal kitchen cabinets, the 2,974 modern kitchen sinks and the hundreds of oil heating stoves in the houses, only 253 of which are completed. In two months the model town has gained only 34 families as residents despite the reported "pressure" on Kingsbury Ordnance plant workers to move to it.

The admission of the National Housing administration that Kingsford Heights and other nearby housing projects for Kingsbury Ordnance plant workers is "the worst example of unused housing," followed condemnation of the project by a mass meeting of northern Indiana civic leaders at Valparaiso two weeks ago. Protests were sent to Washington, but the construction work in the practically-deserted town continues.

### *Blames Shift of War*

John B. Blandford, Jr., NHA administrator, in Washington Saturday said that thousands of war housing units are going begging for tenants in some areas while other war production centers are crowded beyond capacity. He said the situation stems from the changing nature of the war itself and revised demands for battlefronts.

Sweeping revisions in war production schedules have suddenly emptied some teeming war centers and diverted thousands of workers into other communities unprepared for the influx.

He said a peak of 27,000 workers had been scheduled at Kingsbury Ordnance plant, but that the peak reached actually was 18,000. Diversion of industry since has caused a reduction to 9,500 workers, Blandford said.

Van Nuys indicated he will demand in the senate, as Rep. Grant, South Bend, will seek in the house of congress, a probe of the Kingsford Heights project with emphasis on why expenditures of public funds were not stopped when impracticability of the project became apparent.



## ONE BOY RETURNS HOME



A. Stewart

Hammond Times, September 7, 1943

Cpl. Audrey Stewart, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Stewart, 1206 — 150th street, East Chicago, a paratrooper in training at Camp McCain, Miss., recently spent a 10-day furlough with his parents.

Cpl. Stewart, who has been in service since last Feb. 10, is one of two sons in service. The other son, Sgt. Leslie Stewart, has been reported missing in action in New Guinea. Before entering service, Audrey worked as a machinist at Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing company, Hammond. He is a graduate of Roosevelt High school.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

— Editorial —

Hammond Times, September 6, 1943

Sometimes editorial writers want to do all the thinking for the readers whereas it has been our observation that readers generally can think equally as well and often better than editorial writers.

Able and observing correspondent for the Indianapolis Star is Everett C. Watkins. In his column, "Washington Front," Mr. Watkins makes a few pertinent remarks.

No comment that we could make would improve on Mr. Watkin's thought-compelling words:

"Thirty-five Washington newspapermen who attended the Roosevelt-Churchill Quebec conference are still smacking their lips as they recall the luscious, thick, moderately priced steaks they ate while in the country to the north. Now they are back on Washington's skimp, no-beef rations at high prices. The only

way these scribes can account for the difference in the food in Canada and the "States" is that the Washington government is first feeding the world and letting the people of the 48 states eat what is left over, whereas Canada first feeds Canada and then sends overseas what is left over. But still the Arabs have to eat."

## VETERAN AT 18



E. C. Hahney

Hammond Times, September 7, 1943

A veteran of the war at 18 years of age, Edwin C. Hahney, seaman first class, just ended a 15-day leave which he spent with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Hahney at their home, 217 Webb street, Hammond.

In a brief 10 months of service Seaman Hahney has been to Africa twice, Ireland, England and Iceland.

A naval gunner with the merchant marines, Hahney came from Africa and when the ship docked he was granted his first leave since enlistment.

He reported back to active duty at New Orleans, La.

## MILITARY FUNERAL FOR SGT. LODDY RUSKO, WHITING YOUTH

Hammond Times, September 7, 1943

Last rites for Sgt. Loddy Rusko, a 22-year-old Whiting gunner and radio operator on a B-24 bomber, who was killed when the plane crashed into the Sacramento mountains near Alamogordo, N. M., last Wednesday, will be

Continued on next page



conducted tomorrow at 8:30 a. m. from the Baran funeral chapel where the body now lies in state. Rev. John Kostik will conduct services in St. John's church at 9 a. m. and interment will be in the St. John cemetery in Hammond.



Sgt. Rusko

Sgt. Rusko met his death when he filled in on a routine training flight for a friend who had been grounded for the day. Both boys came home together on a furlough from Aug. 17 to 23.

Accompanied by military escort, Sgt. Jack Honisko, another of the young sergeant's friends who is stationed in the same flight squadron at Briggs Field, Tex., where Sgt. Rusko had been assigned, arrived with the sealed casket last night.

An honor guard from Ft. Sheridan will carry the casket and Post No. 80 of the American Legion will stand guard. Full military honors and public tribute will be accorded this Whiting sergeant, who gave the supreme sacrifice for his country, Mayor James T. McNamara said today.

Sgt. Rusko is survived by his father, John; his twin sister, Bessie; another sister, Mrs. Gay Cartwright of Whiting and one brother, Pvt. Emil, who is with an army signal corps unit in north Africa.

The Whiting sergeant was inducted into the army Sept. 30, 1942, and was sent from Fort Benjamin Harrison to Jefferson Barracks, Mo., for his basic ground training. From Jefferson Barracks he was assigned to an armored division school at Lowry Field, Colo., and then to aerial gunnery school at Laredo, Tex., where he received his wings last June. While at Laredo, he received a medal for expert

gunnery, the highest award given in that division.

Born in Whiting, Aug. 20, 1921, he was graduated from George Rogers Clark high school and later employed in the laboratory at the Standard Oil refineries.

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## CAPT. GRALAK WOUNDED

Hammond Times, September 7, 1943



V. Gralak

Wounded at Guadalcanal, Capt. Victor H. Gralak, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter A. Gralak, 140 — 155th place, Calumet City, is at Kennedy General hospital, Memphis, Tenn., recuperating after a major operation necessitated by his wound. His twin brothers are in service, Pvts. Walter, Jr. and Robert, both being at Camp Wallace, Texas. Capt. Gralak's wife is Mrs. Marie Gralak of Chicago.

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## SERVING IN SICILY

Hammond Times, September 8, 1943

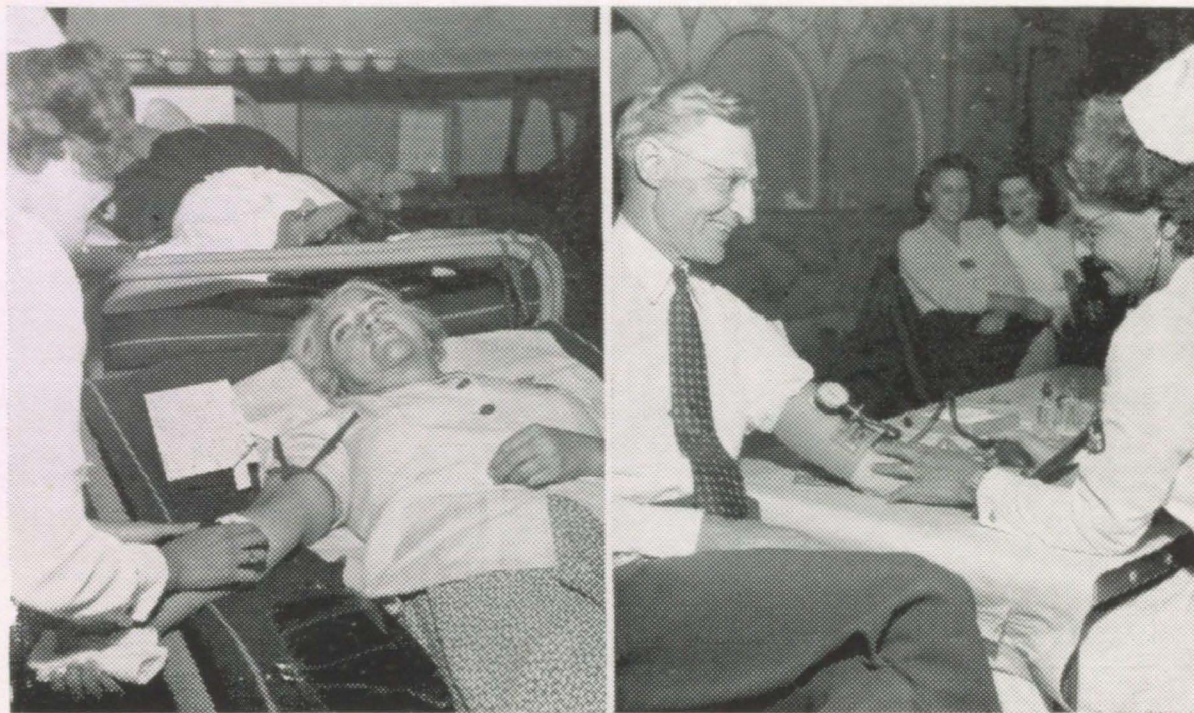
Word has been received by Mr. and Mrs. John Chorba, Sr., 7027 Chestnut avenue, Hammond, that their son, Tech. Cpl. Joseph Chorba, is seeing action in Sicily.

The Chorbas have two other sons in service, Pfc. John Chorba, Jr., who now is stationed at the army air base at Maxton, N. C., as an M. P., and Pvt. Steve Chorba, who is with the air force in Atlanta, Ga. The latter's wife and daughter are staying with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Valkinow, Jr., on Howard avenue for the duration.



# Two Who Didn't Cancel Donor Appointments

Hammond Times, September 8, 1943



Mayor G. Bertram Smith of Hammond, right, among the first group of blood donors yesterday, the first of the Chicago blood donor unit's visit in Hammond, has his blood pressure tested preliminary to giving a pint of life-saving plasma.

On the left, Mrs. Elva Jackson, 4319 Wheeler street, Black Oak, mother of a Guadalcanal veteran now believed recovering from wounds "somewhere in the Pacific," donates her pint of blood. Her son, Staff Sgt. Robert Jackson, 30, is a member of the marine corps and has served overseas in the south Pacific battle area for 17 months. He was reported seriously ill with malaria several weeks ago, she said, declaring:

"Even if my blood can't help Bob, it may save the life of somebody he knows—or even of just one of the fine boys in our armed forces. That's enough for me."

Many Calumet region men and women who

had called Hammond 1926 and had made their appointments for the first day of the mobile unit's Hammond stay never appeared, it was reported, or called to announce they had eaten fried eggs for breakfast or had drunk cream in their coffee, which made them ineligible for their donation.

"If our boys on the battlefields missed their war appointments or 'forgot' to the extent of slipping their responsibility in the war, the United Nations would lose the fight," Miss Janet Jones, chairman of the Hammond blood donor service, said today.

"Each blood donor appointment is a responsibility, not to be lightly taken," she declared. "Prospective donors, after making their appointments, receive a card upon which is listed the proper diet to be followed prior to the giving of each pint of blood. This diet is an additional responsibility — American soldiers are depending on you to carry it conscientiously."



# **MRS. WOLF PROUD OF HER 5 STAL- WART SONS SERVING IN UNCLE SAM'S ARMY**

Hammond Times, September 8, 1943



Mrs. Louis Wolf

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Wolf, of 6648 Alexander avenue, Hammond, could not provide a complete football eleven to charge the Axis line, but they did send a quintet to carry the ball against the nation's enemies.

Above Mrs. Wolf holds their service flag with its five stars. Two of their sons already are taking an active part in the Allies' offensive war while two more are completing training to go into active service.



John

Cpl. Louis, Jr., is in Africa with the signal corps. Fred is a member of the merchant marine and is "somewhere at sea" bearing arms and supplies to the nation's far-flung armies.



Harold

Cpl. Robert is an air corps technician, second class, now at Fresno, Calif. Sgt. Harold is in the quartermaster's department at Sacramento, Calif. John soon is expecting a non-commissioned rating as an officer in the amphibian air corps at the engineering school at Corpus Christie, Texas.



Fred

Prior to entering service the boys all aided in operation of the Sugar Bowl, a confectionery at 6813 Kennedy avenue. Harold was also a motion picture projectionist at the Indiana theater. Their father is employed at Hammond's Orpheum theater.

The family resided in East Chicago until 1930 when they moved to the Hammond address.



Louis Jr.

Robert



## MANS MERCHANT SHIP GUN

Hammond Times, September 9, 1943



Jack Murphy

Seaman, first class, Jack Murphy, 20-year-old son of Mrs. Thomas E. Murphy, 4625 Towle avenue, Hammond, now is spending a well-earned rest with his mother after completing an around-the-world cruise on a merchant vessel on which he manned a navy gun.

Sailor Murphy's blue blouse bears bars showing service in the Asiatic, the middle east, north African, southwest Pacific and Sicilian theaters of war. While off Sicily, the ship on which he was stationed was bombed for four days and nights.

The Hammond bluejacket enlisted in the navy in June, 1942, and shortly thereafter started his world cruise, going first to Liverpool, England, and later to Alexander and Cairo, Egypt; Algiers, Tripoli, Gibraltar, Australia, Bethlehem, Jerusalem and finally Sicily. His furlough ends Sept. 13, when he reports back in New York.

## EXPLORES LONDON

Hammond Times, September 10, 1943

Pvt. First Class Walter R. Juergens, 21 years old, 437 Lewis street, Hammond, "saw all the places he used to read about" when he took time out from military duties and spent his leave exploring London. There he saw not only the historic works of old, but also the havoc of high explosive bombs which took

England's great metropolis during the 1940 blitz.

In a tour conducted by the American Red Cross, he visited such places as the Guildhall (completed in 1426) in which the lord mayor of London conducts his ceremonies. St. Paul's Cathedral, (built by Sir Christopher Wren) which is one of the world's greatest cathedrals, and the Old Bailey, central criminal court, erected in 1834 for the trial of criminal cases.

Then followed a sweep through Fleet street, the home of all the great English newspapers, and a tour of the Gothic-style law courts which were erected in 1874-'82. The tour also included a trip to London Bridge and the Tower of London, built by William the Conqueror in 1078-'80.

Many soldiers stationed in the European Theater of Operations which is commanded by Lt. Jacob L. Devers, travel to London to see the sights on furlough and pass time.

## TO GO OVERSEAS

Hammond Times, September 9, 1943



E. Lepley

S/Sgt. Edward M. Lepley of Hammond, Ind., will soon complete his training in the second air force and in the near future he will go overseas to a combat area to do his part in defeating the enemy. He is stationed at the army air base, Dalhart, Texas, at the present receiving a very important part of his final training as aerial gunner.

S/Sgt. Lepley is the son of Mrs. Minnie D. Lepley, Hammond, Ind.



## MUSIC IS HIS SHORE LEAVE PASTIME

Hammond Times, September 10, 1943



Reginal Percy Banner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Banner, 413 Lewis street, Hammond, recently promoted to the rank of motor machinists' mate, first class, while on duty with the U. S. navy in the Atlantic, is an expert pianist and recently was the center of

attraction at the New York servicemen's center while on shore leave. Above he is shown at the center's piano. His son, Coxswain Thomas Chadwick, who has spent a seven-day leave with his grandparents here, is attached to the submarine chaser training school at Miami, Fla.

## HERO OF 19 RAIDS AGAINST AXIS DIES OVER GERMANY; WAS CITED FOR BRAVERY

Hammond Times September 10, 1943



A. Hlebasko

Tech. Sgt. Albert Hlebasko, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Hlebasko, Sr., 2122 Lake avenue, Robertsdale, today was reported killed in action in a raid over Hamburg, Germany, on July 25.

Sgt. Hlebasko at the time of his death had

been a participant in nearly a score of raids against the Axis, and was the possessor of four oak leaf clusters and an honorable mention award for bravery from Maj. Hundley of the Eighth army air force, headquarters in London, England.

His bride of but a few months, the former Miss Helen Sichak of McKeesport, Pa., whom he married last December, had been living at McKeesport with her parents. She was notified by the war department of Hlebasko's death at the same time as his parents.

Hlebasko was a graduate of George Rogers Clark high school in 1939, and between graduation and enlistment in the army air forces, he was employed at the Sinclair Refining company in East Chicago.



## STATIONED IN ALASKA

Hammond Times, September 10, 1943



G. Carroll

Gene Carroll, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Carroll, 33 Warren street, Hammond, who for the past three and one-half months has been stationed at Kodiak, Alaska, reports that he has been classified a seaman first class.

The Alaskan climate appears to agree with him. Carroll has gained 15 pounds since his transfer from a United States base. He reports enjoying The Hammond Times regularly at Kodiak in addition to letters from his family and friends.

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## BACK TO NAVY DUTY

Hammond Times, September 10, 1943



C. L. Prewitt

Clifton Leon Prewitt, seaman first class, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Prewitt, 3434 Parrish avenue, Indiana Harbor, has reported back to duty after a four-day leave spent at home with his parents.

A participant in the invasion of Italy, Prewitt was able to visit his brother-in-law, Jerry Farster, seaman first class, United States coast guard, who now is home on an 11-day leave from Savannah, Ga.

## MUNSTER SGT. GETS A PURPLE HEART

Hammond Times, September 6, 1943



Staff Sgt. Porte

Word was received yesterday by Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Porte, 1863 Ridge road, that their son, Staff Sgt. Clarence Porte, 23, has been awarded the Purple Heart decoration given to soldiers wounded in action.

Sgt. Porte, the family said, took part in the North African campaign after serving overseas for almost a year. News of the award was the first word the family had received indicating their son had been wounded in action. A recent letter from the soldier indicates the wound was not serious and that he is again in active service.

Sgt. Porte, who entered the army almost three years ago, has two brothers in service. Pfc. Jacob Porte, now stationed in a Kentucky camp, and Pfc. Anthony Porte, who is stationed in Texas. He also has a sister, Mrs. Susie Newenhouse, living in Thornton, Ill.

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## HAMMOND SOLDIER LISTED WOUNDED

Hammond Times, September 19, 1943

Pfc. Floyd A. Arvin, son of Mrs. Laura Arvin, 4235 Johnson avenue, Hammond, was reported wounded in action in the north African war area this week by the war department.

Pfc. Arvin was one of 228 American soldiers reported wounded in battles in the Asiatic, middle eastern, north African and southwest Pacific theaters.



## LOWELL SAILOR TELLS ORDEAL

### Dorsey Ruley Recounts Horrors Undergone in Sea Battle of Kula Gulf

Hammond Times, September 19, 1943

How American sailors were forced to abandon ship at night during the sea battle of Kula gulf and how they floated for three days in the water, strafed almost continuously with machine gun bullets from Jap planes, was graphically unfolded here this week with the return of Seaman Dorsey Ruley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Ruley, and a gunner's mate in the navy.

Ruley's ship, the USS Helena, was torpedoed three times during the night of July 6 and sank shortly after the last shot struck, forcing all hands to abandon ship. There wasn't time to lower life boats—the sailors just jumped into the water, those of them who were lucky enough to escape from the floundering ship.

"In addition to the hazards of swimming through burning oil and debris, shells whined continually overhead, some exploding near us and Jap planes flew low over the water strafing us with their machine guns," Seaman Ruley related.

Despite the slim chances to live their plight indicated for the sailors, 150 of them finally reached Vella LaVella island, where they later were picked up by a U. S. destroyer operating almost under the noses of Jap island patrols. Many of the rescued sailors were burned, others were wounded and still others were ill as a result of their three-day exposure in the ocean.

"We just managed to exist—all of us—with the help of friendly natives on the land," Ruley recalled "Later, after we were picked up by the destroyer, we were granted several weeks of rest at camps in the southwest Pacific and still later a lot of us got leaves in which to recuperate."

According to Dorsey, his worst experience during the trying ordeal were the three days he spent in the water clinging to a lifeline attached to a raft that had been hastily put together by the sailors after they had abandoned ship.

"The raft was overcrowded," the Lowell youth said, "and those of us who were physically able to do so had to hang onto this lifeline to make room for those unable to stay afloat. During the three days and nights many of our boys slipped from their lifejackets and slid beneath the waves. I finally was taken aboard the life raft a few hours before we reached the shore—by that time I was so cold and exhausted I had gone under water several times myself and had to be helped back to the lifeline by other sailors."

Throughout the ordeal the sailors went without food or water and when they finally made land, were so exhausted from exposure they had to be carried on improvised stretchers across the island where other survivors had taken refuge. Many shortly afterwards became seriously ill because of lack of food and medicine and Ruley said climatic conditions of the island added to the misery of those who had reached land.

"My hands and feet were big masses of blisters that had become infected by the salt sea water," he said.

### VISITS WIFE ON BIRTHDAY

Hammond Times, September 19, 1943

Cpl. Verlyn "Doc" Mack, who is serving "somewhere overseas," pleasantly surprised his wife this week when he cabled a bouquet of talisman roses to her at their home, 4719 Towle avenue, Hammond, in honor of her birthday.

Cpl. Mack, who before entering service was employed by the Inland Steel company, is attached to the field artillery of an infantry division.



## JOE F. HRUSKOCY LISTED MISSING IN REICH RAID



Sgt. Hruskocy

Hammond Times, September 12, 1943

Waist gunner on a B-17 Flying Fortress, Staff Sgt. Joseph F. Hruskocy of Whiting was reported missing yesterday by the war department, since Aug. 17, when his plane failed to return from a bombing mission over Germany.

One of six brothers in the service of their country, Sgt. Hruskocy was inducted into the army, July 16, 1942, and left for overseas in May, 1943. He had been stationed in England since that time and his last letter home was received here Aug. 16.

He and his brothers are the fighting sons of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hruskocy, 2129 Indianapolis boulevard. The five brothers now in active duty are:

Andrew E. Hruskocy, seaman second class, medical corps, U. S. navy, stationed at San Bruno, Calif.; Pfc. Thomas C. Hruskocy, in service with the infantry for nine months, stationed now at Camp Chaffee, Ark.; Staff Sgt. John P. Hruskocy, U. S. coast artillery, Bremerton, Wash., in service two years, two months; Cpl. Stephen C. Hruskock, U. S. signal corps, (radio) stationed at New Orleans, La., in service 10 months and Seaman Second Class Milton Hruskocy, gunner's mate at Great Lakes, Ill.

## GOVERNMENT TO PAY WOUNDED WAR VETS

Hammond Times, September 19, 1943

Every wounded and maimed veteran of World War II who is physically capable of earning his living is going to have government-paid training in the vocation for which he is best suited.

What's more, he's going to receive com-

petent instruction in already-established schools, colleges and universities. There will be no repetition of some of the blunders committed after World War I, when "lawyers were teaching shoemakers and accountants teaching sign painting."

Third, and not the least in importance, he'll be given the chance to start his studies immediately after he is discharged from a hospital, instead of having to wait until the war is over.

A group of grizzled men in dark blue uniforms and overseas caps, who were disabled in the service of their country during World War I, are going to make every effort to have this program carried through.

They are the disabled American veterans, whose chief concern, expressed over and over at their current convention in New York City, is for the protection of America's fighting men disabled in this war — and whose motto is "The time is now!"

"The set-up is practically complete," said their national adjutant, Vivian D. Corbly, of Cincinnati. "As we are informed by the veterans administration service, the men are being and will be trained in institutions already established. We consider this much preferable to the system in the last war, when 'mushroom schools' sprung up, just to get government contracts, and many teachers were unqualified to give the proper instruction—and many veterans were given the wrong training.

"Competent vocational guidance advisers are absolutely essential. Before these boys ever undertake and study courses, their abilities and inclinations should be tested out, to determine what they can do best—despite their handicaps.

"A marvelous job was done after the last war. I can speak from personal experience, for I was rehabilitated, after having lost my memory. I was wounded twice and gassed. When I came home, I didn't recognize anybody. The government paid my way through the University of Montana, where I studied journalism, the disabled American veterans helped me socially and psychologically — I came out all right. Scores of men right here at this convention were successfully rehabilitated.

Continued on next page



## TELLS OF NAZI MACHINE-GUN STRAFING AFTER HIS SHIP WAS BOMBED AT SICILY



R. L. Hawk

Hammond Times, September 19, 1943

Graphically depicting the deadly side of war, Seaman Robert L. Hawk of Hammond, a gunner's mate, third class, returned home this week for a 30-day leave from active duty with a thrilling story of how he survived the bombing of his boat and a German pilot's machine-gun strafing.

Seaman Hawk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hawk, 6727 Wicker avenue, was on the second boat to enter Gela, Sicily, when it was bombed by a German plane 200 yards off the coast.

Thrown into the water along with his buddies, Hawk and other seamen were mercilessly strafed with machine-gun bullets fired at them by the Nazi pilot but escaped unharmed by continuous wriggling about in the water and submerging whenever the plane neared them.

After spending a hectic hour in the ocean, Hawk and his mates finally were rescued by the crew of another Allied ship. Besides this action, the Hammond sailor also saw active service overseas at Algiers, Oran, LaGoulette, Bizerte, Tunis and Arzea.

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### Government to pay wounded war veterans—

Continued from previous page

"Yet—there were mistakes. Some were put in trades and professions where they didn't belong. If I myself had followed the advise of my vocational guidance advisor I'd have been raising bees! Yes, that's what he recommended.

This time, we want to make sure there won't be such mistakes."

Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, administrator of veterans' affairs stressed the importance of equipping disabled veterans to earn their living. He told the convention.

"There will be keen competition in employment when the war is over. The veterans' administration is bending its efforts to see that disabled veterans are equipped to earn their way in the face of this competition. I am sure that in addition to the laws already written, there will be written provisions for definite preference to veterans in employment."

According to officials of the DAV, 59 per cent of the 105,000 service men of World War II with certificates of disability discharge have reported that they either have jobs, are undergoing rehabilitation training, or do not need any assistance. Thirteen hundred applications for vocational rehabilitation have been filed, and a number of disabled men now are actually in training.

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### SOLDIERS ON FURLOUGH AID IN DEDICATION OF PLACUE

Hammond Times, Sept. 21, 1943

Two soldiers on furlough, Sgt. Bobst, stationed at Ramolus, Mich., and First Sgt. Neal Clark, Panama canal zone, raised the flag and unveiled the placue Sunday when Area 3, Zone B, dedicated the placue at 510 Sibley street, Hammond.

Colors were presented by the Edward H. Larsen Post 802. The invocation was by Father Letko of All Saints' Church.

Mayor Smith was the guest speaker. "When the Lights Go On Again" and "Prayer for Peace" were rendered by Mrs. Norton Hepner and Miss Jeannette Patterson responded with a reading: "America We Love You."

Rev. Theo L. Lewis of the Baptist church said the closing prayer. The block matrons of Area 3 Zone B, pinned a red rose on each mother, wife, sister and sweetheart, representing the names listed on the placue. Rev. Mungovan of All Saints' church donated the ground and flag pole.



## IN NAVY OVERSEAS



C. South, Jr.

Hammond Times, September 20, 1943

Clarence F. South, Jr., 27, of Gary, was promoted to the rating of machinist's mate, second class, after receiving training at Great Lakes, Ill., and was assigned to overseas duty.

Enlisting last October, South is a former Thornton Fractional High school student and a Hammond Business college graduate. He was employed at the Inland Steel company, Indiana Harbor, before volunteering for navy duty. He made his home in Hammond as a civilian with his sister, Mrs. Mozella Donahue, 7426 Alexander avenue, Hammond.

## NORMAN PASCHEN OVERSEAS

Hammond Times, September 20, 1943

A cablegram stating he had arrived safely overseas has been received from Pvt. Norman Paschen, formerly of Whiting, by his aunt, Mrs. Ruth Moore, 1819 New York avenue.

Pvt. Paschen has been in service since February when he left the University of Wisconsin where he was majoring in music on a scholarship.

Mrs. Moore's own son, Aviation Student Wallace Earl Moore, has been just recently assigned to the Arizona State university for additional training in aeronautics. He has been in training since April when he was sent to Salt Lake City for basic.

## VET PREFERENCE TEST FORSEEN

Hammond Times, October 7, 1943

Multiply the number of men who wore the uniform in World War I by two and one-half and add the numbers in the women's auxiliaries and you get a fair idea of how big will be the biggest business of Uncle Sam before too long.

Veterans' preference has not come to mean much thus far in this war for the simple reason that jobs are still plentiful, there has been an unusual public profession of desire to get along with the veteran, which certainly did not happen after World War I.

But when the pinch comes, jobs get scarcer and competition stiff, just as it always has and the veteran get scratched and the real test of how the new machinery for veterans' preference will come.

The civil service commission is taking time by the forelock. Administrative and placement history has just been made. A section in the commission has been set aside under direction of Charles R. Anderson, himself a veteran of the last war, to take on the job of executing the laws, rules and orders relating to veterans in the federal service. The idea of setting up a section has been debated for weeks.

It is of more than passing interest to note that World War I veterans never got even approximate consideration. Veterans are not objects of charity. It is merely a matter of enforcing plain English words regarding veterans. World War I veterans were cut during the "credit act" days to as little as \$19 a month. We can recall no time when the White House extended itself to improve the status of veterans. We recall the fight to retain reenlistment allowance even for peacetime soldiers. We had a part in that fight and Economic Czar James Byrnes, then senator, suddenly lost the ball in the high grass one happy day and failed to prevent its enactment as a standing proposition.

Even for veterans of this war, the whole thing is going to have to be a matter of enforcement after veterans are cleared by the commission.

We see hedgehopping, glaring draft scandals, the pinkoes still happy, Rockefeller-Davenport "internes" prying into the service. Will it not be reasonable to say that veterans will be happy, too, if there is room for all these elements when congress further cut the budgets.—By George D. Riley in the Washington Times-Herald.



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# Local Soldiers Pose With Native

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Hammond Times, September 22, 1943



Wherever "somewhere in the middle East" is, it's certain from this picture that Cpl. John Petro of East Chicago, left, and Pfc. Frank T. Juscik of Hammond have made friends

among the natives of that land. The two local soldiers, buddies at one of the theaters of war, pose here with a native boy amid palms.

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## TO AFRICA

Hammond Times, September 20, 1943

A telegram on Friday to his wife confirmed the news in the V-mail letter received on Wednesday that Pfc. Donald Greer has been transferred from Fort Lewis, Wash., to Africa. His address is 35580702 Company D 614 Quartermasters battalion. APO No. 4576 care of postmaster, New York.

Mrs. Greer expects a visit from Pfc. Greers' brother, Pvt. Robert Greer, Monday. He is spending a furlough with his mother, Mrs. Everet Greer of Hammond.

## HAMMOND FLIER GETS DFC FOR SERVICE

Hammond Times, September 26, 1943

Staff Sgt. Casimer P. Piatek of Hammond has been awarded the distinguished flying cross for meritorious service with the army's eight air force in England, the war department announced today.

Sgt. Piatek was one of 96 officers and enlisted men of the eighth air armada to receive the DFC or Oak leaf cluster.



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# Lansing Naval Officer Describes Landing on Rendova Island

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Hammond Times, September 24, 1943



"True, the 28 Paprats flying torpedo planes that attacked our task force after we landed invasion troops on Rendova Island last June 30 disabled my boat and forced all hands to abandon ship, but when the smoke of battle cleared, all 28 planes and their slant-eyed pilots were either aflame on the ocean or had gone to their watery graves."

This is the way Ensign Henry W. Potts,

formerly of Lansing, describes the landing of Allied troops that captured the Solomon island base two months ago. Potts, 29 years old and a former instructor at Thornton Fractional high school, Calumet City, was aboard the USS McCawley, an imphibious transport that was part of the naval task force.

Potts, married and the father of 3-year-old

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Janelle Potts, entered the navy last November, receiving his commission on Nov. 18, 1942. Prior to that he taught vocational bookkeeping and was wrestling coach at the Illinois high school and served as business manager of the school district. His first-hand account of the battle for Rendova island was unfolded yesterday when he re-visited the school on a 30-day survivors' leave granted by the navy.

"All ships of the task force which I was in pulled up to Rendova through treacherous coral reefs in the early-morning hours of June 30," Potts recounted. "We safely discharged 1,800 combat troops from the McCawley, together with guns and amunition, under heavy fire by Japs on the island. Part of my duties include handling landing barges, so I was with the first troops to put foot on the island."

Having completed its mission of landing the invasion troops on the island, the task force started pulling away from the island about 5 p. m. when the ships were attacked by the 28 Jap torpedo planes.

"The planes dropped five torpedoes at the McCawley and missed but the sixth bomb hit amidship, disabling our engines and killing 13 men and two officers who were in the engine room below," Potts declared. "We then abandoned ship, going down nets stretched across the water to another ship which came alongside when it saw our plight."

The McCawley was a flagship and carried Adm. Richard Turner, commander of all amphibious forces in the south Pacific.

"Then the Jap pilots started strafing the new ship with machine guns and fired more torpedoes at us — one a near-miss, which is almost as bad as a hit because of the terrific concussion. About an hour later the McCawley, which was still afloat, was hit by three submarine torpedoes and sank almost instantly."

Then the rescued men were taken back to their base and re-assigned to other ships or sent back to the states—as in Ensign Potts' case—to take charge of new men who will sail newly constructed ships.

Potts, who wears a ribbon attesting to ac-

tion in the Asiatic, Pacific and American theaters of war and four stars for as many major engagements, was particularly enthusiastic about the close cooperation of all American forces.

"Naturally we of the navy josh the army about its helplessness when we aren't around—cause they can't get to the fighting zones unless we take them there—but when it comes right down to the battle, the army, navy and marines work hand-in-hand all the time. It's a wonderful spirit of cooperation."

Potts, who is visiting with the Russell Ladds, 3117 Jewett street, Highland, while he is here, also praised the spirit of the men at the fighting fronts.

"Here at home all I hear is conjecture about when the war might end," he said. "Out there none of us guess at the end—we just do our jobs as well as we can and as efficiently so that we can get home in the shortest possible time."

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## LT. McNEILL WINS AIR MEDAL

Hammond Times, September 26, 1943

Lt. Howard A. McNeill, 22, former employe of Mercury Pictures, Hammond, and now a bombardier on a Flying Fortress based somewhere in England, has been decorated with an American air medal "for meritorious action under enemy fire."

Lt. McNeill, a native of Hammond, is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. George School, 1117 Summer boulevard. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. William T. McNeill, now live at 10718 Avenue G, South Chicago.

Prior to entering service, Lt. McNeill attended Hammond high school, where he graduated in 1940. While doing class room work there he also worked part-time for the local photographic firm. Still later he was employed in the engineering department of the International Harvester company, Chicago.



# JEEP WINNERS FLASH 'V' FOR VICTORY

Hammond Times, September 24, 1943



Informed that they annexed top honors in the junior emergency employe personnel service contest sponsored by Hammond's junior chamber of commerce, the above seven patriotic youngsters flash their best smiles and line up in a "V For Victory" formation while waving the U. S. war bonds they received from JEEP activities. Reading left to right in the "V" are Robert Austgen, 11, of 127 Mason street, Calumet City, the under 12 boy's division champion; Tom and Jim, the Daily twins, both 12, of 6622 Madison avenue, Hammond, co-champions in the 12-13-year-

old bracket; Paul Shlensky, 14, of 658 Sibley street, Hammond, who won the 14-15-year-old boy's division and also took honors for saving the most war stamps purchased with money he earned as a JEEP; Birdie Warner, 14, of 6328 Madison avenue, Hammond, 14-15-year-old girl's winner; Helen Miller, 12, of 7436 Chestnut avenue, Hammond, 12-13-year old girl's champ, Audrey Waller, 11, of 7503 Madison avenue, Hammond, the under-12 girl's winner. First prize in every division but the under-12 competition was a \$25 U. S. war bond.



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# A Hammond Mother Greet Her Son

Hammond Times, September 24, 1943

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"My boy . . . oh, my son! Thank God for keeping you safe."

These heartfelt words, sobbed out brokenly by his tearful 68-year-old mother, were the best of all greetings given Staff Sgt. Robert O'Connor, 23, of 7208 Van Buren street, Hammond, when he returned here this week as a hero from five major engagements with the enemy.

Best by far, said Sgt. O'Connor, were these impulsive outpourings of his mother, Mrs. Margaret O'Connor, and the handclasp and pat on the shoulder he received from his father, Patrick O'Connor, 70 years old. It was the first time he'd seen them in more than a year during which he's faced death by enemy bullets on many occasions.

Sgt. O'Connor, a marine serving as a radio-



gunner in a dive bomber, returns not only as a hero of the Allies' successful battle for air supremacy over Guadalcanal, Munda, Bougainville and Savo, but also as one of a trio of modern day "Three Musketeers" who fought side-by-side through five major battles in the South Pacific.

The Hammond radio-gunner enlisted shortly after Pearl Harbor and met the other two members of the "Three Musketeers" while they were sent overseas more than a year ago, the three also were assigned to the same bomber squadron. Other two members are Staff Sgt. Norman Breen, 20, of Chicago, and Sgt. Orville Simmons, 19, of Glenwood, Ia.

Here now to attend Sgt. Breen when he marries Miss Mary Ann Sullivan of Chicago tomorrow, the three praise one another for saving each other's lives during several air battles.

Sgt. O'Connor, in a leading plane on a bombing mission against Jap shipping, told how his plane scored a direct hit on a cruiser which exploded and sank in 15 seconds.

"We turned back after the attack and ran square into a four-plane formation of Jap fighters, all of whom started throwing lead at us," the Hammond flier relates. "We were at their mercy, for my guns had jammed, when suddenly Sgt. Breen came to our rescue, zooming his plane in among the Japs, firing like mad and scaring the enemy pilots out of their wits. They would have gotten us without a doubt if Breen hadn't been around."

Sgt. O'Connor is one of four O'Connors in the armed service. Two of his brothers are with the navy, Daniel on a destroyer somewhere at sea and Michael in Hawaii, while the third brother, John, is a private in the army at Virginia.

The returning hero has been twice cited by the president for valor and wears five stars indicating his participation in as many major battles overseas. Before entering service he worked at the Lever Bros. company and is a graduate of All Saints' parochial school and Hammond high school.

## SAYS RUSS NOT TO FIGHT JAPS

Hammond Times, September 28, 1943

Communist Leader Earl Browder warned again today that it is an "illusion" for the United States to expect Russia to fight Japan.

The U. S., he said, should not expect the Soviets to be "able or willing to undertake the burden of the military struggle with Japan." He termed "harmful nonsense" the idea that Russia would furnish the Allies with Siberian bases with which to bomb Japan.

Browder, who is general secretary of the American Communist party declared that Britain and the U. S. should not expect to share in the political reconstruction of Europe and Asia if the USSR wins the war without "major military aid."

"Let us assume," he said, "that we allow the Soviet union to win the war without our major military participation."

"Do you think for one moment that we can expect the Soviet union to turn around and lick Japan for us, too? And then we, the great and wise and rich and beneficent Uncle Sam will step in and tell all the naughty boys and girls of Europe and Asia where to get off and what they should do and who they should put in charge of affairs?"

Browder blamed British Prime Minister Winston Churchill for delay in opening a western European front against Germany. U. S. Chief of Staff Gen. George C. Marshall, and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower both favored the expedition, Browder said, but Churchill decided against it.

The Communist leader asserted that "if the second front had been opened in the west this past spring or summer, the war in Europe would already have been decisively won."

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## PROMOTED

Hammond Times, September 28, 1943

Richard A. Sirlin of East Chicago has been promoted to technician fifth grade, it was announced today by mobile force headquarters. Cpl. Sirlin, whose family lives at 4817 Baring avenue, East Chicago, is currently serving with a mobile force signal unit. He has been in the army for nearly two years and has been on foreign service in the Panama Canal department since last April.



## SAY PLANE BEARING SGT. BACON CRASHED JUST AFTER TAKEOFF



Sgt. Joe Bacon

Hammond Times, September 23, 1943

Although army air corps authorities withheld exact details of a transport ship crash Monday in which Staff Sgt. Joseph John Bacon, 21, of 1844 Sheridan avenue, Whiting, and 24 others were killed, it was learned today that the tragedy occurred shortly after the plane had taken off for a "shuttle run" from the Maxton airfield near Laurinburg, N. C.

In a dispatch giving only the barest details of the crash, air corps officers said the ship ascended about 100 feet into the air, then hesitated and plunged into a woods near the end of the plane runway, bursting into flames almost instantly. None of the crew or its passengers escaped alive.

The body of Sgt. Bacon, who was assigned to the Raleigh-Durham airport at Raleigh, N. C., for training, will arrive in East Chicago tomorrow morning. The Whiting flier is survived by his mother, Anna, and a brother, Steve, who reside at the Sheridan avenue address.

Last rites will be held Monday morning at 9:30 o'clock in the Prusiecki chapel, 3831 Michigan avenue, and at 10 o'clock in Holy Trinity Croatian church, with the Rev. Francis Podgorsek officiating. Burial will be in Oak Hill cemetery, Gary.

Before entering service, Sgt. Bacon graduated from Washington high school, where he was active in football, basketball and wrestling.

## WHITING PILOT DIES



Lt. Smith

Hammond Times, September 20, 1943

A Whiting flier, Lt. Clayton Smith, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clay V. Smith, 2748 New York avenue, was killed Sept. 15 while flying a B-24 bomber patrolling the coasts of Latin-America in the guard against submarines, his parents were informed today.

Besides his parents he is survived by three brothers, Pfc. Charles William, on anti-aircraft duty somewhere in the Pacific, James and Harry, and three sisters, Dorothy Imogene and Ruthann.

He volunteered as an aviation cadet, Nov. 24, 1941 and received basic training at Maxwell Field, Ala., then going to Greenville, Miss., for primary training and George Field, Ill., where he was commissioned a second lieutenant.

He visited his home for the last time in May, 1942, and soon afterward was sent to South America.

Born May 17, 1920, he was a graduate of George Rogers Clark high school in 1939 and was employed by the Standard Oil company.



## RETURNS TO DESTROYER



K. Jackson

Hammond Times, September 29, 1943

After a four-day leave, spent with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jackson, 1161 Summer street, Hammond, and his fiancée, Miss Merle Reichoff of East Chicago, Kenneth Jackson, seaman 1c, has returned to his naval duties aboard a destroyer. Jackson who is 19, entered naval service last December. Prior to his enlistment he was employed by the Hammond Pullman-Standard Mfg. company plant.

## NURSE IN ENGLAND



M. REPKA

Hammond Times, September 29, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Rock, who live at 4910 Magnolia street in Hammond, have received word recently that their daughter, Lt. Marion Repka, has now arrived safely overseas and is stationed somewhere in England.

Lt. Repka is a member of the nurses corps of the United States army. She was graduated from Roosevelt high school in East Chicago and received her medical training at the school of nursing at St. Catherine's hospital and later at the Indiana university nursing center in Bloomington.

## VETS OF FOREIGN WARS HAVE TEN POINT PROGRAM

Hammond Times, September 29, 1943

The post-war welfare program proposed by National Commander Robert T. Merrill at the opening session of the convention of Veterans of Foreign Wars today follows:

1. Continuation of pay for six months for all honorably discharged members of the armed forces.

2. Federal educational aid for honorably discharged veterans whose educations were interrupted or prevented by military service.

3. Government care and treatment for all honorably discharged veterans of all wars, campaigns and expeditions who had 90 days' service, or were discharged for disability.

4. Veteran pension and compensation payments based on reasonable cost-of-living index.

5. Veteran preference in employment of federal, state, county and municipal jobs.

6. At least 10 per cent of all employes on federal government contract supply and construction work to be honorably discharged veterans.

7. Pension entitlement to all honorably discharged veterans of all wars, campaigns and expeditions, who had 90 days' service, regardless of service-connected disabilities.

8. Pension entitlement to honorably discharged veterans of all wars, campaigns and expeditions who served 90 days, and who are unemployable, unable to obtain employment, or 10 per cent or more disabled, regardless of service-connection of disability.

9. Increased allowances of 20 per cent in pensions and compensation, and five per cent additional rating above standard ratings in civil service employment preference for veterans who served in actual combat zones in all wars, campaigns and expeditions.

10. Continuation of veterans' administration as an independent federal agency with exclusive jurisdiction over all veteran rehabilitation, vocational training, medical treatment, hospitalization, pensions and other veterans matters; and continuation of federal veterans' employment service.



## GRANDSONS SERVE



H. Mallalieu

Hammond Times, September 30, 1943

Sgt. Grant E. Mallalieu, 23, grandson of Mrs. Emma Mallalieu, 5254 Hohman avenue, Hammond, and a nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Minas, business man, has gone to Macon, Ga., base for training following a furlough home from service in Iceland. He saw service in Iceland for 19 months and while home told



G. Mallalieu

glowing accounts of the wonders of the north-land. Before his army service the young sergeant was a member of a CCC outfit. The sergeant has a brother, Howard, a corporal, who is now taking part in the fierce offensive in Italy. Both are graduates of Hammond high school. Grant, known as "Bud" was a member of the wrestling team and popular, as was Howard. Howard, before entering the service, worked for the Fuller Brush company, while Grant was employed before entering the CCC service for the Vivian bakery.

## NOW COROPAL COWAN



L. Cowan

Hammond Times, September 30, 1943

News of the promotion of Lynne Cowan to the rank of corporal was received from North Africa recently by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rogers, and his wife, Sally, all of whom live at 3708 Parrish avenue in Indiana Harbor.

Cowan, who has been in the army for almost nine months, left the United States last May for overseas duty. He is now with a tank destroyer division attached to the headquarters company of the Fifth army in north Africa.

A graduate of Washington high school in 1939, Cowan was employed at the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company in East Chicago prior to his induction into the army.

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## GETS HOME NEWS

Hammond Times, September 28, 1943

Staff Sgt. Michael P. Davich, husband of Mrs. M. P. Davich, 1438 Summer street, Hammond, keeps abreast of developments in his home town by reading The Hammond Times while serving overseas in Iran with the 651st engineers' company.

Sgt. Davich, who sent this picture home to his wife and 13-month-old daughter, Catherine Marie, says he has been receiving copies of The Times regularly during the four months he has been stationed in Iran. Before going overseas, he received the paper at army camps in Oklahoma and Mississippi, where he was assigned to the 113th engineers' battalion composed primarily of Whiting soldiers. He has been a reserve in the Indiana national guards since Dec. 8, 1939.



## Hammond Sailor Vet of Sicilian Invasion Here on 22-Day Leave



L. Ponton

Hammond Times, October 1, 1943

Leonard Ponton, gunner's mate, is spending a 22-day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ponton, 735 Indiana street, Hammond. After his boot training at Great Lakes, he spent 10 months as gunner on a troop ship. He was on the first ship to land U. S. troops in the Hebrides islands. His ship also carried troops to the Fiji, Solomons, New Caledonia and other islands in this area.

In January, 1943, he was transferred to a merchant vessel as gun captain of the navy crew. Since that time he has made an entire trip around the world, seeing service in every continent except South America. He visited such ports as Sydney, Perth, Australia, Colombo, Ceylon, Calcutta, India, Port Aden, Arabia, Suez, Cairo, Alexandria, Egypt, Tripoli, Lybia and Malta.

Ponton was in Sicily during the invasion. His ship was under bombing raids for 14 days without a single casualty. One night his gunners were credited with bringing down nine German planes. They were successful in unloading their entire cargo, but after leaving were torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine. Again they were lucky, as the entire crew was rescued after eight hours in life boats and taken to the nearest port to await transportation home to America.

Arriving home in Hammond from New York on Sept. 21, after an uneventful trip across the Atlantic, Ponton had completed the around the world trip. His furlough ends when he reports back to Treasure island, San Francisco, on Oct. 10. He also has a sister and brother serving in the navy, Oma C. Ponton,

a pharmacist's mate, stationed at the naval hospital at Memphis, Tenn., where she is taking a course as surgical technician. His brother, Robert G. Ponton, is also a gunner's mate and an instructor in gunnery at the naval air station at Pensacola, Fla.

## KRAJNAK CABLES HOME



J. Krajnak

Hammond Times, October 1, 1943

A hero of the war, Pvt. John B. Krajnak of Whiting could take enough time off from his duties with a U. S. army unit in north Africa to cable congratulations to his parents on their 25th wedding anniversary, Sept. 23.

Decorated with the Purple Heart after being wounded in the battle for Algeria on Feb. 3, Krajnak also wears three silver stars for participating in the invasions of Africa, Algeria and Tunis.

Before enlisting, Pvt. Krajnak was employed at the Standard Oil company of Indiana and resided with his parents, the John Krajnaks, Sr., 2000 White Oak avenue. He was sworn into the service at Indianapolis and sent to Camp Wheeler, Ga., for basic training. From Ft. Dix, N. J., he was transferred overseas to Northern Ireland. After six months he was assigned to north Africa for the invasion.



## CABLES HE LANDED SAFELY

Hammond Times, October 3, 1943

Apparently believing the V-mail letters he had sent earlier had gone astray, Capt. William Derner, 26, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Derner, 716 — 169th street, Hammond, sent them a cablegram Friday saying he had landed safely in England.

Capt. Derner, who has been in service more than three years, is attached to the headquarters' company of the third armored division, APO No. 253, in care of the postmaster at New York City. A graduate of Hammond high school and Purdue university, he entered service as a second lieutenant, became first lieutenant two years ago and was made a captain last year.

The Derner's other son, Cecil H. Derner, now is training as an air cadet in the army air forces' school in Yale university. Cecil, 22 years old, also graduated from Hammond high school and attended Purdue for three years, excelling in football, where he played a half-back position.

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## IN SOUTH SEA ISLAND

Pfc. John I. Hestermann, Jr., 706 Ridge road, has informed his family by V-mail that he now is in the south sea islands and is in good health. According to his letter, he's been eating a lot of cocoanuts and bananas.

Pfc. Hestermann entered service Dec. 28, 1942, and was trained at Fort Bliss, Tex. Now in the searchlight battalion of the anti-aircraft artillery's semi-mobile unit, he has urged friends to write him by addressing their letters to him at Battery B, AAA, S-L battalion, semi., APO No. 913, in care of the postmaster at San Francisco, Cal.

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## PAYLOR ON FURLOUGH

Pfc. George J. Paylor, who has been stationed in Trinidad since the day Pearl Harbor was attacked, is spending a 20-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael G. Paylor, 1023 Myrtle avenue, Whiting. His brother, Pvt. Daniel, is stationed at Camp Adair, Ore.

## OBRADOVICH PROMOTED



OBRADOVICH

Hammond Times, October 4, 1943

Sgt. Robert Obradovich of Hammond, recently was elevated to his rank in the marine corps. The son of Mrs. Mildred Mrzlack, 1022 Kenwood street, Hammond, he enlisted as a leatherneck Nov. 24, 1941. Sgt. Obradovich was active in boxing, baseball, football and basketball while a student in high school. In 1941 he won the heavyweight title in Gary's Golden Gloves tournament, stacking up four straight knockouts.

In 1938 and in 1939 he won the southern Nevada heavyweight title and defeated Indiana and Kentucky AAU champs in 1941. He fought his Gary battles under the name of Bob Brady.

Now serving as a mortar section chief, Obradovich was an instructor in bayonet fighting and judo at Camp Pendleton, marine training center at Oceanside, Calif.

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## List Hammond, Gary Men Prisoners

Hammond Times, October 4, 1943

Parents of a Hammond and a Gary soldier are notified this week by the war department that their sons now are being held as prisoners of war by Germany.

Included among 536 U. S. soldiers listed as prisoners by the war department are Staff Sgt. Robert J. Horvath, son of Mrs. Mildred Horvath, 1164 Summer street, Hammond, and Technician Rudolph J. Antala, son of Ignatz Antala, 1936 West 12th avenue, Gary.



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# THREE SERVE, TWO WOUNDED

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Hammond Times, October 4, 1943



Leo Shalba

Allen Shalba

Frank Shalba

The three Shalba brothers of Hammond are in service and two have been injured in combat duty. Pfc. Leo, who joined the air corps in October, 1942, is at the hospital at Galena, Wash., after being injured in February. His wife lives at 4326 Elm avenue, Hammond. Cpl. Allen, who enlisted in the army in August, 1940, and has been overseas since August, 1942, was injured in action in north

Africa. Discharged from the hospital after three months he now is on M. P. duty in north Africa. The third brother, Frank, recently was promoted from corporal to technical sergeant at Camp Cooke, Calif. He joined the army in April, 1942, and was home on a furlough a month ago, visiting his sister, Mrs. Casimer Sajdyk, 1303 — 169th street, Hammond.

## PVT. JOE OLENIK MISSING IN ACTION

Hammond Times, October 6, 1943

Pvt. Joseph Olenik, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Olenik, 3908 Evergreen street, East Chicago, is missing in action in the north African area, the war department announced today.

A war department telegram received by his parents about three weeks ago stated that Pvt. Olenik has been missing since July 16. The last letter his family received from him was dated about the middle of June.

A former student at Washington high school, Olenik was employed at the Indiana Harbor plant of the Inland Steel company prior to his induction into the army on Sept. 14, 1942. He was sent overseas about six months ago.

The Indiana Harbor soldier has two brothers now in service, Sgt. Nick, stationed at Camp Breckenridge, Ky., and Pfc. Walter, who is at an army air base in California.



## CALUMET AIRMEN HONORED

Hammond Times, October 4, 1943



J. Stachowicz

Two Calumet area airmen were honored this week when Maj. Gen. Claire Chenault, former commander of the famed Flying Tigers, presented them with air medals for completing 100 hours of air combat with the enemy.



C. E. Edwards

The men are Staff Sgt. Charles Eugene Edwards, 218 Williams street, Hammond, and Staff Sgt. John Stachowicz, 634 Forsythe avenue, Calumet City, both of whom are with the 14th army air corps in China.

Edwards, tail gunner in a B-24 Liberator bomber, and Stachowicz, belly gunner and radioman, are using the same air bases as the Flying Tigers once used when they fought off the Jap invasion planes. Their planes also still bear the Tigers' insignia.

Edwards, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Edwards, now is 20 years old. He enlisted in the air corps in July, 1942. Two brothers, John, 18, and Wayne, 22, also are training to become aviation cadets. John enlisted June 2,

1943, and now is attending classes at the State Teachers' college at Slippery Rock, Pa. Wayne enlisted Sept. 2, 1943, and will begin his training tomorrow at Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

All three youth graduated from Hammond high school and Wayne also attended Indiana university.

Stachowicz, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Stachowicz, is 26 years old. He enlisted July 24, 1941.

## BROTHERS GET PROMOTIONS

Hammond Times, October 4, 1943



C. J. Faught



E. Faught

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Faught, 1544 Fischrupp avenue, Whiting, have just reason for being proud today for they have learned of the simultaneous promotions of both of their sons during the past week.

Elius Faught, who enlisted in the marines in March, 1942, has been promoted to sergeant. He already has seen action at Midway islands and in south Pacific theater of war. He now is stationed in Hawaii.

Charles J. Faught, who enlisted in December, 1942, has been promoted to gunner's mate, second class. Charles, who recently visited his parents on a leave, has seen actions in both oceans and now is stationed in Philadelphia, Pa.



## Naples Much Like Hammond

Hammond Times, October 6, 1943

After spending two weeks in "goshdarn cornfields," Naples, Italy, looked like Hammond" to a paratrooper who marched into that city Monday with a famous American infantry battalion.

Pvt. Tony Jaskulski, 1031 — 169th street, Hammond, is the soldier who drew the comparison when he arrived in metropolitan Naples after having been dropped onto Italian soil Sept. 15 by parachute.

His joyous likening of Naples to Hammond came after Jaskulski spent more than two weeks in cornfields outside the city, lying hidden with a buddy, Pfc. John Clancy of Chicago.

The two soldiers later joined the infantry regiment and marched into the city to receive the plaudits of happy, laughing Neapolitans.

In speaking to a newspaper war correspondent who related the incident, Jaskulski asked to be remembered to "my mom, dad and kid brother."

## A TWO STRIPER



W. Lewicki

Hammond Times, October 6, 1943

Mrs. Genevieve Lewicki, 204 — 142nd street, Hammond, has just received word of the promotion of her son, William Lewicki, to be a corporal. The young corporal is now in Australia under the command of Gen. MacArthur. He has been overseas for the last five months. He has been in the service for 10 months and before entering the service he drove a truck for Holliday Steel company of Hammond.

## Hammond Cousins Meet in South Pacific Islands

Hammond Times, October 6, 1943

Another strange coincidence of the current war in bringing relatives together in far remote places, was revealed recently in a letter Pfc. Sam Postlewaite, Jr., wrote to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Postlewaite, of 30 Midway court. The father of the young soldier is advertising manager of The Hammond Times.

Young Postlewaite, was on a week-end leave in the South Pacific islands when he was accosted in a village by another soldier, who exclaimed:

"Say, buddy have you got a match?"

"Certainly," Postlewaite exclaimed, and he whipped out a pack. Postlewaite then introduced himself.

"My name is Sam Postlewaite of Hammond!"

"Then we're cousins as I'm Bob Lucas!" the other boy exclaimed.

Parents of the boys said they had not seen each other for several years.

Lucas is the son of Mrs. Frieda Kunert Lucas, formerly of Hammond.

Needless to say, the boys celebrated before their leaves ended.

## Schereville Hero Wins Promotion

Hammond Times, October 6, 1943

England — The promotion to first lieutenant of Richard G. Bohny of Schererville, was announced recently by Brig. Gen. Frederick L. Anderson, commanding general of the Eighth Bomber Command.

Lt. Bohny, 25, is co-pilot of the Flying Fortress "Argonaut III." He has participated in 14 bomber combat missions over enemy Europe, and has been decorated with the air medal with one oak leaf cluster for "meritorious achievement" during these missions.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. William Bohny, of Schererville, Lt. Bohny entered the service on March 13, 1942.



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## MIRACLE CITY TO LOSE 1,200 OF IDLE HOMES

### Thirteen Million Dollar Model Town Units to be Shipped to Other Centers

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Hammond Times, October 6, 1943

Under continual fire, the national housing agency today announced that 107 of the town's 1,974 prefabricated houses would be dismantled at Kingsford Heights, Indiana's \$13,000,000 "mirage city," beginning next week. Each of the houses is a duplex, housing two families.

The houses are to be trucked about 250 miles to Port Clinton, O., where they will be set up again, William K. Divers, regional NHA representative at Chicago, announced.

Another 1,000 homes will be moved to other war activity centers soon, Divers said.

Under the plans the town would shrink from its present 1,974 houses, each a duplex, to 967. At the same time, it is indicated, it will become a "city of women." It has been announced that a shift and increased orders at the Kingsbury Ordnance plant, south of LaPorte, will necessitate the employment of 2,000 women.

#### *Plan Dormitory Setup*

These women, it is expected, will be provided with a dormitory setup by use of Kingsford Heights where only 231 of the houses are occupied.

The Kingsford Heights officials have indicated they intend to set up a recreational program for the women they expect to occupy the town. It was indicated, however, that not more than 10 to 15 per cent of the women are expected to live there, since many will come from LaPorte, Valparaiso and other nearby towns and would follow the custom

of present ordnance plant workers in driving to and from work.

The houses to be moved by the government cost \$3,000 each, a total of \$321,000 for the 107 to be moved immediately. It will cost the government \$1,200 more per house to move them.

"The government decided it would be a savings to move the houses rather than to abandon them and build new ones," Divers said.

#### *To Use 300 Trucks*

The Henke Construction company, Chicago, won the contract for the house moving. The job will require about 300 trucks for a period of 90 days.

The removal of the houses will make absurdly oversized the model town's waterworks, sewage system and vast system of paved streets.

Meanwhile, however, construction work continues unabated on the central "business section" of the town with little prospect that more than a few of the stores which the section will provide ever will be occupied.

The shift of the homes from the ghost town, together with plans to populate the remaining houses with women workers, caused LaPorte county officials to predict that the school, opened Monday, would become static or even lose in attendance. A total of 168 pupils registered for the kindergarten and eight grades for which the government is paying \$40,000 in operating expenses for the school year.



## HIROHITO MUST HANG

— Editorial —

Chicago Tribune, October 6, 1943

The account, published yesterday, of the beheading of an American flyer who had fallen into the hands of the Japanese last March in New Guinea is so horrible that it almost defies belief. The facts, however, are not open to question. They were recorded in a Japanese soldier's diary, they were stated in circumstantial detail, and they fit precisely into the pattern of Japanese bestiality and brutality as they have been revealed in this war and before it.

The young American officer had been obliged to bail out of his plane. His parachute carried him within the Japanese lines. If his captors had shot him in anger as he landed the act would have been grossly illegal, but it would have been understandable in human terms. Nothing like that happened. The American boy was not killed in rage by the soldiers who captured him but was reserved for sacrificial slaughter and the rites of mutilation.

Under the direction of an officer the Japs bound the hands of the American flyer and carted him off to the place of execution. They forced him to kneel on the edge of a shell crater and watched the slow rites which accompanied the selection of the appropriate sword. The sadists expected him, as the Japanese diarist notes, to cringe and bawl in terror. In this they were disappointed. The American boy's stoical self-possession almost spoiled the fun, but his fortitude did not win him a reprieve.

The Jap soldiers were drawn up in lines the better to view the spectacle. The diarist notes that once the blade had done its work all hands stepped forward to examine the head eagerly, and to observe the quantity of blood that poured from the open neck. As if that obscenity were not enough the sword was then handed to another, who ripped open the boy's belly to provide additional blood for the emperor.

This ceremony was not conceived by an inmate in an asylum for homicidal maniacs, as

the account of it would suggest, but was part and parcel of what passes for religion and civilization in Japan. The horrible atrocity proves, if any proof were needed, that the Japanese are blood lusting savages in long pants.

That's what they showed themselves to be when they beheaded the captured members of the Doolittle raiding party. They showed it again when they brutalized and then massacred by thousands the simple Chinese peasants a few of whom had befriended the Tokio flyers. The Japanese exhibited religious faith when they raped our women and bayoneted captured Canadian soldiers in Hongkong. The horrors of the Nanking massacre form another chapter in the same record. Everywhere the Japanese have gone they have carried their mad doctrine of rape and loot and blood for the emperor.

That is why we say that Hirohito must hang. He is god to the Japanese, and in his name and in his honor all these hideous brutalities have been committed. He must be hanged on the most conspicuous site in Tokio, and there he must dangle from his rope until even the simplest of Japanese minds realizes that this creature they have worshiped as god is a foul thing and that the blood cult of the emperor has brought them only shame and degradation.

Japan long ago drove out the devoted men and women of the Christian churches who had sought to overcome the brutalities of the Japanese faith. A people that wouldn't listen to persuasion must now be taught their lesson the hard way. That is a cause to which all the American people feel themselves called. They know their duty to avenge their mutilated dead and to make sure that never again will the mad devotees of a savage faith dare to engage in conquest.

Americans are ashamed that so little of their strength has been turned against the Japanese. They are resolved to carry the war across the Pacific to its proper conclusion, the complete overthrow of the religion of the emperor, the bloody god of the Japanese.

Hirohito must hang.



**'Proud But Lonely' Says Widowed Mother of 5 In Service**

## GIVES 5 SONS TO UNCLE SAM

Hammond Times, October 11, 1943



Mrs. Anna Evan

J. J. Evan

Pvt. Eli Evan

Cpl. M. C. Evan

Cpl. Tom Evan

Lou Evan

Widowed 15 years ago by the untimely death of her husband, Mrs. Anna Evan, 60-years-old, lives a quiet and lonely life in her little cottage at 3427 Elm street, East Chicago. But there's not a prouder mother to be found anywhere in the Calumet region.

With her husband dead and her seven sons her only refuge in her declining years, one might expect Mrs. Evan to bind those sons to her with oft-mentioned "mother's apron strings." Instead she courageously has given up five of them to the armed forces over the past three years.

In fact, had it not been for a friend of the family, few persons would know of Mrs. Evan's contribution to the war. The friend, John Popp, 4916 Tod avenue, East Chicago, who was so inspired by her "take it with a smile" attitude, is responsible for the facts being made public.

First to leave his mother's side—not counting the two older sons, Nicholas, 34, and Samuel, 30, who both are married and who are fathers — was Cpl. M. C. Evans, 26, who now is serving overseas with Company C, 131st engineers, who has been in service for three years. "Mike," as he is known to his friends, enlisted even before Pearl Harbor.

Then went Cpl. Thomas Evan, 23, who first took basic army training after he entered service two years ago and has since been assigned to serve with a paratroop unit now at some undisclosed foreign base. He is stationed with the infantry service company, having an overseas mailing point at New York City.

Next came Seaman John J. Evan, 21, who entered service a year and one-half ago and now is with Company M of the 17th replacement battalion, also stationed overseas. Seaman Louis Evan, 20, also joined the navy, entering service six months ago and now serving somewhere at sea as an aviation machinist's mate, second class.

And only two months ago Mrs. Evan lost her last remaining son, Pvt. Eli Evan, 18, who also is training as a paratrooper at Fort Benning, Ga.

"I can't give anymore sons," Mrs. Evan said somewhat sorrowfully yesterday, "unless the war department decides to take fathers because both Nick and Sam have families and are working in defense plants."

And if Uncle Sam calls these two remaining sons, this typical American mother indicated, she will not stand in their way of service, either.



## Miss Their East Chicago Friends

Hammond Times, September 14, 1943

George Zivich, seaman, second class, and Jerry Kulchack, fireman, second class, now sailing somewhere in the Atlantic, have written that they miss the hospitality of their East Chicago friends.

The two sailors, looking forward to a seven-day leave in the near future, say the first thing they want to do if it's possible is revisit East Chicago. One of their biggest thrills came when they accidentally met Ensign Wells, son of the principal of Riley school, aboard their ship.

## Missing Son Writes That He Is Prisoner

Hammond Times, October 11, 1943

One son home on furlough and word that another son, who was reported missing in action, is safe and well has made the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Olenik, 3908 Evergreen street, East Chicago, happy once more.

Just a week ago today the war department advised the Oleniks their son, Pvt. Joseph Olenik, was missing in action in north Africa since July 16. The information was overshadowed by a letter received Friday which had been written July 28 by the "missing" soldier from an Italian prison camp.

The Olenik son home on furlough is Sgt. Nick Olenik, who has just completed two months training on maneuvers at Nashville, Tenn., and has been assigned to Camp Breckenridge, Ky.

The letter written by Pvt. Olenik on July 28 stated:

"I am well and am a prisoner here in Italy. I am being well treated here in the prison camp. They feed us fairly well, give us books to read and we do other things to pass away the time. I did not stay in action long. I was captured in Sicily, was held there as a prisoner in three different places, and then finally was sent here to Italy. Please don't worry about me."

A former student at Washington high school, Pvt. Olenik was employed at the Indiana Harbor plant of Inland Steel company prior to his induction into the army Sept. 14, 1942. He was sent overseas about six months ago.

Another son of Mr. and Mrs. Olenik, Pfc. Walter, is stationed at an army air base in California.

## Lansing Youth Describes Ravages of War in Sicily

Hammond Times, September 14, 1943



T. Recker

A vivid impression of the Sicilian campaign as seen through the eyes of a local youth participating in the invasion was received last week by Miss Tillie Terpstra of Munster in a letter from Cpl. Tony Recker, 23, former worker on the Terpstra farm and son of a Hammond mail carrier.

Written by a youth whom friends remember only as "quiet" and as "a guy who thought a lot," letters like the following began coming back when Recker entered service. "They made us wish we had made Tony talk more," Miss Terpstra says. Cpl. Recker writes:

"It's nice to think of these letters as if we were together again and having a heart-to-heart talk the way all good friends will. The last was from north Africa; this one is from 'sunny Sicily.'

"It is sunny, believe me. We have been here about two months and I have seen only two cloudy days. I understand, however, that they



have a mean rainy season but when it begins I haven't the vaguest of notions.

"The island is made up of hills, hills, and more hills. They seem to be interminable. We have seen the famous Mount Etna. A town by the name of Randazzo, situated at the foot of Mount Etna, is as far as we went during the first rush. We had a break there and went into a rest area, the first break since we landed July 10.

"Mount Etna is high, with a continual column of sulphur smoke rising from the top. I imagine it is quite a thing to view this mountain and I must admit it makes a beautiful picture at daybreak. But somehow the pall of war overhangs everything and we just can't appreciate the beauties of nature.

"There have been times, on arriving at the crest of a hill, that I have seen a view so striking that even the war could not take away the effect. It has been at those times that I've thought about the oddities of war.

"One wonders why God permits its ravages to mar a beautiful country scene. Standing on the crest of a hill, one can see a vista spread before him of a few scattered farm houses, the grain neatly shocked and lying in rows, a few cattle grazing over the fields, and perhaps a farmer or two busy with their grain.

"Then, amidst this peaceful scene, on closer scrutiny, one sees shell holes scattered around, and defacing black areas where the grain has caught fire. The front line has moved on and the natives have come back to resume their interrupted pattern of life.

"One cannot help but marvel at the transformation. One day there is bitter fighting on that territory, blood is shed, lives are lost, and yet a few days later one views a peaceful countryside with natives working as if nothing had ever happened.

"Can't you close your eyes and visualize it as I see it? I know you have no conception of what a shell hole looks like, but remember what you've seen in pictures and let your imagination run a bit, and then you will come close. If you should ever see a bomb crater, I know you wouldn't be able to speak for sev-

eral minutes. It is my fervent hope that none of you will ever have to experience the paralyzing effect of falling bombs or whistling shells. God grant that our nation be kept free from the horrors and devastation of total war. It is not pleasant and the sights viewed by us older men will never, never be forgotten."

Cpl. Recker explains why he, but 23 years old, includes himself among the group of "older" men:

"We see new replacement come in and feel sorry for them. They look so—young and unafraid. It may sound odd to you to have me say that they look young, just as if we were so old. No, we are not much older in actual years, but we have seen so much more. We know what faces them, while they are still unknowing.

"It may sound unbelievable to you, but men who have been in this unit since the very beginning have changed considerably. Fellows who looked like kids, had soft cheeks, no beards to speak of, now look years older. They still 'cut up' and joke around, but under it all one can sense a serious air."

Young Recker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Recker, Wentworth avenue, Lansing, is a former student at Thornton Fractional high school. After entering service almost two years ago, he was trained at Camp Croft, S. C., and Camp Blanding, Fla., before shipping overseas to Africa a year ago.

He closes with:

"Gosh, how I long to see a familiar face from home again; it's been a long, long time," and adds:

"It helps to know you wonderful American girls miss us a little. We miss you so terribly much. It's going to be a great reunion some day.

"God be with you until we meet again.

"Sincerely,

"TONY."



## IN INVASION OF ITALY

Hammond Times, September 14, 1943

Lester E. Jackson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Jackson, 4811 Pine avenue, Hammond, was promoted to private first class in Sicily, according to word received by his parents. Enlisting last December in the heavy field artillery, Pfc. Jackson received training at Fort Bragg, N. C.; Fort Shenago, Greenville, Pa., and Newport News, Va.

He then was transferred to north Africa last April and since has participated in four major battles, including the invasion of Italy. While in Sicily, he encountered an old friend, Pvt. Raymond L. Schofield of Hammond.

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## Returns To Active Duty

Hammond Times, October 6, 1943



R. Ulbrich

Seaman Robert Ulbrich, Jr., electrician's mate, second class, in the navy, has just returned to active duty after spending a 15-day leave visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ulbrich, Sr., 915 Cedar avenue, Hammond.

It was Ulbrich's first leave in almost two years in service. He already has participated in two major battles and three campaigns in the Coral sea, Solomon islands and Aleutian islands. His fiance, Miss Mary Jane Dareing of Walkerton, Ind., was a house-guest of his parents during Ulbrich's leave. He presented her with a diamond in token of their engagement.

## Wave Completes Her Training



L. Hitzemann

Hammond Times, October 7, 1943

Seaman, second class, Lillian Hitzemann, WAVE daughter of Edwin Hitzemann, 824 East Carroll street, Hammond, has completed her basic training as an aviation machinist's mate at the technical training center at Memphis, Tenn.

WAVE Hitzemann enlisted last March and was subsequently assigned to the naval air station at Livermore, Cal., as a seaman, first class. She began her aviation machinist's course there.

Prior to enlisting WAVE Hitzemann was employed at the Metropolitan Insurance company office. During a recent nine-day leave which she spent here visiting her father and friends, she was interviewed on a program over station WJOB. Her brother, Raymond, now is serving in the air corps.

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## DYER PALS IN AUSTRALIA

Hammond Times, October 8, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. E. Braithwaite received a letter from their son, seaman first class, William W. Braithwaite a few days ago, saying that he accidentally run across his old pal, Cpl. Robert Hepworth of Dyer, while enroute to an unknown destination.

The two boys were next-door neighbors as well as constant pals and both attended the grade school at Dyer as well as St. John Town-



ship high school. Seaman Braithwaite has been at sea for the past three months but was on the last lap to his final destination when he wrote his parents on Sept. 17th.

In his letter he assured his parents that both boys were thrilled beyond words at seeing each other again as it has been four years since Cpl. Hepworth enlisted in the army and two years since he visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Hepworth.

Seaman Braithwaite enlisted in the navy at Great Lakes, Ill. last January and is to be stationed at a hospital base somewhere in the Pacific. Both boys have gained considerable weight while in service and both are in the best of health. Cpl. Hepworth has been stationed in Australia for two years so it was naturally assumed that Seaman Braithwaite had temporarily made port there also.

## LANSING SERGEANT KILLED IN ACTION IN NORTH AFRICA



Sgt. Brady

Hammond Times, October 7, 1943

Sgt. Kenneth E. Brady, 21-year-old Lansing soldier, was killed in action in the north African theater of war on July 13, according to war department telegrams received by his wife, who lives at 3313 north Schultz drive, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Brady, 3530 Ridge road. A message received by the parents of the deceased from his commanding officer stated that he "gave his life heroically for his country."

The last letter received from Brady was written to his wife on July 5.

Sgt. Brady enlisted Feb. 16, 1942, as a para-

trooper in the army. He received his basic training at Camp Croft, S. C., and his advanced training at Fort Bragg, N. C., and at Fort Benning, Ga., where he earned his paratrooper wings. He arrived at his overseas base on May 9 of this year.

Before entering the service, Brady, who had lived in Lansing all of his life, was employed at the Screw Conveyor company in Hammond.

In addition to his wife and parents, he is survived by one sister, Mrs. Peter Schrum of Lansing.

## BROTHERS OVERSEAS

Hammond Times, October 7, 1943

The Lengyel brothers, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lengyel, Sr., 1129 Morris street, Hammond, are both overseas albiet in widely separated areas of war action. Lt. Michael, Jr., is in the north Pacific and Staff Sgt. Frank is



Lt. Lengyel



Sgt. Lengyel

in England. Both recently were promoted to their present army ranks.



## HAS SEEN ACTION

Hammond Times September 23, 1943



R. Walters

Seaman Second Class Ralph E. Walters, husband of Mrs. Ella Mae Walters, 6903 Columbia avenue, Hammond, is now at Norfolk, Va., following his first trip at sea during which time he saw action in the African theater of war. Mrs. Walters recently returned to Hammond after visiting her husband, formerly employed at the Pullman Standard Wheel foundry, he has been in the service since last May 20. The young Hammond seaman is now waiting orders to again go back to sea, he writes his friends in Hammond.

## THREE AREA SOLDIERS LISTED AS MISSING

Hammond Times, October 10, 1943



Lt. Mulholland

Three Lake county soldiers are listed on Saturday's army reports as missing in action. Second Lt. Eugene V. Mulholland, son of Mrs. Marie T. Mulholland, 6944 Harrison street, Hammond, is listed as missing in the European zone. He graduated March 3, 1943 from the

army air forces flying school at Moody Field, Ga., in ceremonies marking the first anniversary of the field as an advanced flying school.

Lt. Mulholland is 28 and has been in the army two years. He was the pilot of a Flying Fortress. Prior to his entrance in the army he was employed by Lever Bros.

Mrs. Mulholland said that the last time she heard from her son was several weeks ago when he was in England. The V-letter he wrote brought tidings of good health and joy.

The mother said that another son, Joseph, is stationed with the 114th engineers in Australia. In the dispatch released by the war department, Tech. Sgt. William L. Utley, son of Mrs. Edith C. Utley, route 3, Gary, was also reported missing.

Second Lt. John L. Keithley, son of George A. Keithley, Lowell, was listed as missing in the Asiatic area.

## GREW GAVE WARNING OF SNEAK ATTACK

Hammond Times, October 10, 1943

Joseph C. Grew, U. S. ambassador at Tokyo, warned his government 34 days before Pearl Harbor that "Japan may resort with dangerous and dramatic suddenness to measures which might make war inevitable."

Two weeks later, on Nov. 17, 1941, the state department revealed tonight, Grew emphasized "the need to guard against sudden Japanese naval or military actions."

These disclosures, proving that the United States need not have been caught unprepared for the Japanese sneak assault on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, resulted from publication by the state department of documents on which was based the white paper, "Peace and War," issued last January.

Grew's warnings were made at a time when two Japanese emissaries were talking peace in Washington and trying to persuade President Roosevelt to proceed to Pearl Harbor for a meeting with Japanese Premier Fumimaro Konoye.

Continued on next page



## MAGGIO BROTHERS IN ARMY

Hammond Times, October 10, 1943



A. Maggio

Pfc. Mike Maggio, 26, recently spent a 10-day furlough in Calumet City visiting his wife, Mary Helen; mother, Mrs. Jennie Maggio, 324 West State street, and other relatives and friends. His brother, Sgt. Andy Maggio, 34, is serving overseas in North Africa. Sgt. Maggio, a member of the army medical corps, has been in service 11 months. Pfc. Maggio, who entered the army five months ago, is based at Maxton field, N. C., with an airborne division.

### Grew Gave Warning of Sneak attack

Continued from page one hundred eighty nine

At the same time, presumably, the Japanese warlords at home were polishing up final plans for their treacherous act of December 7.

Kichisaburo Nomura, the Japanese ambassador, and Saburo Kurusu, special envoy from Tokyo, tried to arrange the Roosevelt-Konoye meeting for Pearl Harbor or some other mid-Pacific anchorage. The president was to proceed to the meeting aboard a battleship. He held out for Juneau, Alaska, however, and the Japanese agreed. But negotiations broke down before the proposed meeting could be carried out.

In his first warning, on November 3, Grew described as possible "an all-out, do-or-die attempt" by Japan.

On November 17, warning against sudden Japanese actions, Grew added:

"I take into account the probability of the Japanese exploiting every possible tactical ad-

vantage, such as surprise and initiative."

Hull informed Lord Halifax, the British ambassador, that diplomacy had failed. In his memorandum of November 29, dealing with his conference with Halifax, Hull said:

"Speaking in great confidence, I said that it would be a serious mistake for our country and other countries interested in the Pacific situation to make plans of resistance without including the possibility that Japan may move suddenly and with every element of surprise. . . ."

Ten days later Japan, doing just that, caught the U. S. defenders of Pearl Harbor off guard, virtually wrecked the U. S. Pacific fleet, and all but wiped out American air power in Hawaii.

## FORGICH LEAVES U. S.

Hammond Times, October 10, 1943



G. Forgich

A Whiting soldier, Sgt. George Forgich, has been sent abroad from his post in the United States to serve with his army air force unit overseas, according to recent word received by his sister, Mrs. Mike Papaich, 1521 John street, Whiting. His sister explained that Sgt. Forgich is serving as a gunner on one of the air corps' B-24 bombers.

In a letter to Mrs. Papaich, the Whiting gunner urged that all of his friends continue to write to him at his new address, ASN 357-10840; APO 12403 A.J.; New York, N. Y.



## RAPCHAK IN PUERTO RICO



J. Rapchak

Hammond Times, October 8, 1943

This picture of John J. Rapchak, seaman first class, was taken in San Juan, Puerto Rico, where he is stationed aboard a picket boat. He took his boot training at New Orleans, La., and St. Augustine, Fla., and also was in Miami, Fla. During his training his wife, June, was with him, remaining until he left the states for Puerto Rico, January 8, 1943. He formerly was employed by the Standard Oil company's refinery in the mechanical labor department. He has a brother in the army in England and another brother with the Pacific fleet.

## FIRST PRESIDENT TO PASS THROUGH LAKE COUNTY

— Editorial —

Hammond Times, October 10, 1943

Around this time in 1868 there passed through northern Lake county a train which bore the first president of the United States to ever travel through our confines. Not only was President Andrew Johnson aboard, but with him were Secretary of State Seward, Gen. U. S. Grant, and the great Civil war naval hero, Admiral Farragut.

The presidential party was en route to Chicago, Illinois where they were going to dedicate the monument and statue erected in honor of Stephen A. Douglas. Incidentally, the Senator Douglas monument still stands at about 31st street and the lake front and can

be seen from the Outer drive. Those traveling on the South Shore will note the statue just west of the Illinois Central tracks.

Some of Johnson's opponents accused him of making a political tour. In any event people got a chance to see the president and also Gen. Grant, destined soon to be president. Chicagoans knew all about Seward because in 1860 at the Chicago convention that nominated Lincoln he was a close second to the great rail splitter.

The nation, if for nothing else, owes a deep debt of gratitude to Seward because only the year before he had acquired Alaska from Russia by the payment of a few million dollars. His purchase was called "Seward's folly" in those days, but it brought America an empire of almost incalculable value. There is a town in Alaska named after Seward and today that northland is garrisoned by thousands of American soldiers and it is most fortunate that Alaska for defensive reasons, belongs to the United States.

If, in passing through Lake county over what is now the north branch of the New York Central, the president, Grant, Seward or Farragut looked out the car windows they saw very little hereabouts except the wilderness. Gary, Indiana Harbor, East Chicago and Whiting were still unborn and the sites of these great industrial communities were sand dunes and marsh land dotted with oaks. So was what is now the northern part of Hammond.

But along the south branch of the present New York Central, still called the Michigan Central, that year—1868—saw the coming of a small enterprise, the G. H. Hammond Packing company. It employed only a few people at first and then as now housing was scarce.

You might say that the beginnings of industrialism in Lake county were also marked by the first presidential train ever to go through these parts.



## GOES TO SOUTH PACIFIC

Hammond Times, October 12, 1943



G. Bein

George (Ed) Bein, radioman 2c, has returned to a naval base in the south Pacific after spending a week's leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Bein, 844 Truman street, Hammond. This was his first visit home since his enlistment three years ago. A few months ago he completed a course in radar at a training school on the west coast. Prior to his enlistment, Bein was employed by the Continental Roll and Steel foundry. A brother, Robert, is serving in the 82nd airborne infantry overseas.

## SPEEDY PROMOTION

Hammond Times, October 12, 1943



O. Hoch

After being in service only four months, Orval Hoch, whose wife lives at 7282 Black Oak road, Gary, was recently promoted to corporal and sent overseas. Cpl. Hoch took his basic U. S. army training at Camp Croft, S. C. Friends may secure his address from his wife. Cpl. Hoch is one of the many Black Oak boys who have shown "their mettle" to win rapid promotions.

## Hold Memorial Rites Tomorrow For Sergeant Berkowicz



Sgt. Berkowicz

Hammond Times, October 13, 1943

Memorial services for Sgt. Peter M. Berkowicz, 24-year-old East Chicago soldier who was killed in action in Sicily, will be held at 8 o'clock tomorrow morning at the St. Stanislaus church with Mgr. J. Skrzypinski officiating.

The son of Mrs. Victoria Berkowicz, 5012 Baring avenue, the Twin City sergeant was killed on Aug. 3, the war department announced recently.

The War Mothers club of St. Stanislaus church is inviting all relatives, friends and neighbors of the deceased, as well as the mothers of all servicemen from the parish, to participate in the memorial services.

Berkowicz left for active duty in the army on Jan. 14, 1941, with the first East Chicago group to be inducted under the pre-war selective service regulations. Attached to an army communications division, he was trained in California, Texas and Virginia before he was sent overseas.

Prior to his assignment in Sicily, Sgt. Berkowicz took part in the Tunisian invasion, after which he wrote his mother that he "was lucky to come out whole when so many others were killed."

A graduate of St. Stanislaus school and of Roosevelt high school, he was employed at the Sinclair Oil refineries in East Chicago before leaving for army duty.

In addition to his mother, Berkowicz is survived by one sister, Anna, who is doing defense work at the Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing company in Hammond, and one brother, Joseph, now overseas with a Seabee unit of the navy.



## Scattered Clouds Save Former East Chicago Flyer and His Crew

# *Somehow Reeder's Flying Fortress Held Together*

Hammond Times, October 13, 1943



Capt. Reeder

Wing tank punctured, a portion of the stabilizer blown away, the oxygen system shot away at 20,000 feet altitude, and with most of its crew wounded, a B-17 Fortress piloted by First Lt. Sumner H. Reeder, St. Louis, Mo. formerly of East Chicago escaped German fighter planes in a three and a half hour running fight by ducking from cloud to cloud.

Reeder, now promoted to the rank of captain, tells the story in *The Stars and Stripes*, American expeditionary force overseas newspaper of Sept. 13.

A graduate of Roosevelt high school in 1935, Reeder went to St. Louis college and entered the flying corps there. The copy of the article was sent his grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth Sumner, 939 Wilcox street, Hammond, by his wife. He formerly lived at 4205 Olcott street, East Chicago.

The story of the air battle, as told by Capt. Reeder, follows:

"It was our 13th mission over enemy territory, and this time it was Stuttgart, deep in Germany. Our group took off early in the morning (Sept. 6) and we flew across the channel and the French coast before the sun was well up.

"It was quiet all the way to the target. No fighters, and hardly any flak. We were actually on our bombing run when disaster hit us.

There were some Focke-Wulfes up in the sun directly over the target. They came into us high at 2 o'clock, almost head on. I didn't see them.

"The one who got us let go with his cannon just as Harold Pope, our engineer (T./Sgt. Harold L. Pope, of Emerson, Neb.) caught him with the top turret guns at 400 yards. The German blew up right in front of us and the fragments of his plane slammed into our tail and knocked part of one stabilizer away.

"That wasn't so bad; it was what his cannon had done that mattered. One shell had torn the nose of the bombardier's compartment. Another had mortally wounded our co-pilot. A third went through a wing tank, and the gasoline was spurting out in streams.

"My co-pilot was lying across the controls, covered with blood. He pulled himself into his seat, and stayed there by holding to the right edge of the chair back with his left hand. The 20 mm. shell had gone through his right shoulder and exploded against the armor plate behind him.

"I found that some of the pieces had sprayed across the aisle and hit me in the right arm. After we landed I found there were some pieces in my right leg, too. I was lucky when the shell burst. I must have been leaning forward a little and most of the pieces went behind me. They tore away the metal back of my seat.

"Down in the nose things were bad. The navigator had one eye hit and was bleeding from that and other wounds. The bombardier was wounded in the face, arms and legs, and couldn't do anything for himself.

"Harry, the co-pilot (F/O Harry E. Eddeburn, Brookville, Pa.) sat there, holding himself together. Pope came down from the top turret when he got free of fighters for a minute and I told him to take the co-pilot out of his chair and lay him down. He finally

*Continued on next page*



got him out of the seat and laid him down in the hatchway, giving him his own (Pope's) oxygen bottle. But Harry wouldn't stay there. He got up three separate times and tried to get back to his seat to help me. The third time he almost made it. He got one leg over the edge of the seat, and then fell back into the hatchway. I didn't see him move again.

"Pope was fixing up an emergency oxygen line for the wounded bombardier. Pope didn't have any oxygen himself. He would work until he felt himself blacking out, then take a few whiffs from my system, which was still working. I had to order him to do it.

"The fighters were at us all the time, and I don't understand how they missed us. Oddly enough, so far as I know, we weren't hit once by flak or a bullet after leaving the formation. Altogether they were on us about three hours and a half.

"As I said, there were no nose guns and only one top turret gun was working now, so we had to keep the fighters behind us, where our gunners could keep them off.

"What finally saved us was a cover of scattered cloud. We dived into it at 320 miles an hour.

"The fighters would wait for us at the edge of the clouds and come in when we appeared, so I began making 90 degree turns inside the clouds and coming out at the side. This worked for a while and then the Jerries got wise and waited for us where we planned to come out. So then I went into a cloud, made a 180 degree turn and came out where I went in. This fooled them, and I went from cloud spot to cloud spot half a dozen times without being seen, and finally they lost us.

"Somewhere in those clouds Bob Lovin, the left waist gunner (S/Sgt. M. Lovin, of Tyler, Tex.) got a Stuka. Lovin got him cold and Pope saw him blow up.

"When the fighters left I was hopelessly lost. We were down on the deck by this time. Gas was getting low and I asked the radio operator to get me a fix. His set was shot but he managed to get me a heading and we came out of the clouds on the coast. There wasn't a cloud on the ocean and we expected trouble. But no fighters came up. I flew along the coast of France, northward, not knowing how far south of England I was. One of our life rafts

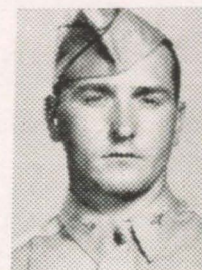
was gone and I didn't want to go far from the shore until I was sure. Several times we flew out to sea 40 or 50 miles, saw no land and came back to the French coast to try again further north, but finally I saw a haze on the horizon. I took the chance and after a bit we could see the coast of England.

"Then we started looking for a field. There must be thousands of them in England, but it seemed that every one was a fighter base—too small for us. Finally, I saw a bomber on a field, and started in.

"It was an RCAF field and those fellows were wonderful to us. I got out of the plane and had to lie down for a few minutes on the ground. Then I went to phone my base, and by the time I got to the hospital, the navigator had been given three blood transfusions in a row and the bombardier had been taken care of too."

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## BELLAMY IN PACIFIC



T. O. Bellamy

Hammond Times, October 13, 1943

Cpl. Talbot O. Bellamy, Jr., of Hammond is pictured during his service overseas as a member of the United States' "Fighting Leathernecks"—marine corps—in the "south-west Pacific" area.

The photograph and information concerning Marine Cpl. Bellamy's activities were received from the Indianapolis office of the marine corps. The picture is an official marine corps photograph.



## WEARS EAGLE ON SHOULDER



Schwendemann

Hammond Times, October 13, 1943

Advancement of Maj. Edward T. Schwendemann, assistant signal officer, sixth air force, to the grade of lieutenant colonel, was announced by Headquarters Caribbean Defense Command.

Col. Schwendemann, a native of East Chicago, was called to active duty Oct. 20, 1941, at which time he was ordered to Fort Hayes, O., awaiting transfer to the Panama area. He arrived in Panama in December, 1941, and subsequently assigned to duty with a signal aviation company. On Jan. 12, 1942, he was assigned to the air force as assistant signal officer, his present capacity.

He was commissioned second lieutenant in the signal corps reserve June, 1930; promoted to first lieutenant February, 1934; to captain June, 1938; major August, 1943.

Col. Schwendemann graduated from the University of Illinois, class of 1930, with a B. S. degree in metallurgy and chemistry.

The colonel's home is at 4001 Grand boulevard, East Chicago, where his wife, Mrs. Isma G. Schwendemann, resides.

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## Summer Street To Honor 26 Men

Hammond Times, October 15, 1943

Residents of the 1400, 1500 and 1600 blocks on Summer street, Hammond, will honor the 26 youths now fighting the Axis with the dedication of a plaque and flag at 3 p. m. Sunday, Ed Duley, chairman, announced today.

The program will be in charge of the Veterans of Foreign Wars No. 802 of Hammond.

## BROTHERS IN ARMS

Hammond Times, October 13, 1943



John Buksar

Steve Buksar, a second class fireman, and his brother, Sgt. John, are on active duty—Steve with the U. S. navy somewhere in the Atlantic, John with the U. S. army somewhere in the Pacific battle zone. Both men,



S. Buksar

the sons of Mr. and Mrs. John Buksar, 1645 Roberts avenue, Whiting, receive the Hammond Times regularly. Steve, 19, graduated from George Rogers Clark high school of Hammond in 1942, while John, 23, was a member of the Clark class at '39. They were employed at Standard Oil company prior to induction, Steve last February and John last March.

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## Whiting Soldier is Jap Prisoner

Hammond Times, October 15, 1943

Three Calumet district soldiers were included in a list of 552 men the war department today listed as being held prisoners of the Japanese. They are, with the next of kin:

Pvt. Steve P. Kaminsky, whose father, James, lives at 1539 Myrtle avenue, Whiting; and Pvt. Logan J. Blankenship, whose mother, Mrs. Minnie M. Blankenship, resides at 5110 Washington street, and Cpl. Richard F. Joder, son of William E. Joder, 413 Monroe street, both of Gary.



## BIEGEL PROMOTED



**J. Biegel**

Hammond Times, October 13, 1943

Joseph G. Biegel, son of George Biegel, 12 Condit street, Hammond, has been promoted in rank to sergeant. He is now in north Africa. In the army since February, 1942, he will be 27 years old Oct. 27, and is in the signal corps. Prior to entering service he was employed by the Conkey company. His address is 35253864, headquarters company, 1st T. Dispatch group, APO No. 464, care postmaster, New York City.

## Two Stripes for Walter Jeurgens



**W. Jeurgens**

Hammond Times, October 18, 1943

Walter R. Jeurgens, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Jeurgens, 437 Lewis street, Hammond, has been promoted to the rank of corporal. He entered the service in January and has been stationed at an army air base in England since June.

Cpl. Jeurgens has two brothers in the service. Pvt. Frederick Jeurgens, stationed "somewhere in the south Pacific," and Sgt. Kenneth Jeurgens, serving in the Mediterranean area.

## Phillip J. Fileccia Now on a Sub Chaser



**Phillip J. Fileccia**

October 18, 1943

Phillip J. Fileccia was born in Hammond, Indiana June 16, 1920. He is the son of John and Josephine Fileccia of Hammond. His father operates a barber shop at 62 Clinton street. He was educated in St. Joseph and Hammond high schools. He was married to Edith E. Long the daughter of Meyer and Jane Long of Hammond.

He entered the United States Navy May 29, 1942 at Great Lakes, Illinois for his basic training, his serial number is 611-27-39. After his basic training he was transferred to the U.S.S. New York doing convoy duty from New York to Scotland from July, 1942 to October 15, 1942. He was then transferred to the U.S.S. Cache a Navy Tanker hauling aviation gasoline from Texas to Norfolk, Virginia from November, 1942 to February, 1943.

After February, 1943 he remained on the same tanker, but made the trip to New Caledonia Island groups. They went through the Panama Canal carrying torpedo boats. They spent 12 days in this group of islands and returned to San Pedro, California. He reports that they had several scares by submarines, but no casualties.

He was recently promoted from Coxswain to Boatswain, and now is on duty on a submarine chaser in the Atlantic.



# Five Brothers in Service



Pvt. Albert



Cpl. Joseph



Pvt. John



Pvt. Frank



Pfc. Edward

Hammond Times, October 18, 1943

"Proud, I'll say," was the expression from both Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Kujawa, for 41 years residents of Whiting, when asked about their five sons in the United States armed forces.

The oldest son, Albert, has been stationed overseas in North Africa for 10 months with a military police unit. He enlisted in the service two and a half years ago.

Rated as a baker, Cpl. Joseph, named for his father, has been in an infantry division of the army for 10 months and is now assigned to Camp Houze, Tex. Just recently returned to Camp Campbell, Ky. after a furlough which was spent at home, Pvt. John, who en-

listed six months ago, is a member of the tank battalion. He is now a tank commander in the army's 20th armored tank division.

Attached to the aircraft artillery unit for 11 months, their fourth son, Pvt. Frank, was just recently shipped to the east coast after being home on furlough.

Kujawa's youngest son in service, Pfc. Edward, also a member of the armored tank division, is based now at North Camp Polk, La. He has been in the army for seven months and is home now, enjoying a furlough with relatives and friends.

## CRIAG A PETTY OFFICER

Hammond Times, Oct. 18, 1942



Robert Craig

Robert Craig, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Craig, 4642 Sheffield avenue, Hammond, who has been on sub chaser duty for the past few months, can wear the stripes of a petty officer 1/c.

Bob, stationed somewhere in Florida, gave his parents a pleasant surprise the other day by telephoning them on the eve of his birthday from Miami, where he was enjoying the benefit of a 72-hour pass.



## FUNDERLIC IN INDIA

Hammond Times, October 18, 1943

Sgt. Joseph D. Funderlic, son of Nick Funderlic, R. R. No. 1, Dyer, has arrived safely overseas "somewhere in India," according to a cablegram received by his wife, the former Ann Forgula of Indiana Harbor.

Sgt. Funderlic is a radio operator in the air corps. He received his training at Scott Field and has been stationed at various air bases while in the States, the last one of which was Waycross, Ga., before he was sent overseas. He is with the dive bombers and is attached to the 384th bomb squadron, 311th bomb group. Before going into service in February, 1942, he was employed at the Inland Steel company in Indiana Harbor and lived in Dyer.

## THREE IN SERVICE



Herman Moore



Lloyd Moore

Hammond Times, October 20, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Herman A. Moore, 635 Gordon street, Calumet City, have two sons and a son-in-law in the armed forces. The son-in-law, Henry F. Magdziarz, has been promoted from private, first class, to corporal at Camp McCoy, Wis. His wife, Alice, is at the home of her parents. He entered service Jan. 15, 1943, and has served at Camp Grant, Ill.; Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Little Rock, Ark.; Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, and A. P. Hill, Virginia.

Lloyd Frank Moore, seaman 2c, is in amphibious training at Norfolk, Vt., after com-

pleting a signalman course at the University of Illinois at Urbana. Herman Allen, the sec-



Magdziarz

ond son, gm 3c, now a third class petty officer with the southwest Pacific fleet, has been transferred from torpedoman to gunners' mate.

## SERVING IN SICILY

Hammond Times, October 20, 1943

Pfc. Joseph Buszkiewicz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Buszkiewicz of 1036 Cleveland street, is somewhere in Sicily, according to word received at home. He had his training in Kessler Field, Miss., Williams Field, Chandler, Ariz., and was overseas in north Africa. He is in the army air corps. He was employed at the Pullman-Standard plant in Hammond before his induction to service 21 months ago. His address is Pfc. Joseph Buszkiewicz, 303 Service Sq., 34th Service Group, A.P.O. 528, New York City, New York.

## HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Hammond Times, October 20, 1943

S/Sgt. Gene Royse may be home for Christmas, according to a cablegram received from Royse by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Royse, 2645 Fairbanks street, Black Oak.

Gene also told his folks he has completed his allotted 50 missions as a ball turret gunner and is now instructing behind the lines in the north African theater.

Royse has been awarded the air medal and 12 oak leaf clusters. He entered the service 17 months ago, won gunners wings at Las Vegas, Nev., and began combat flying March 31 with a mission to Villacidro airdrome, Sardinia.



## Lt. SMITH REPORTED MISSING NOW A PRISONER IN GERMANY



Lt. Eldon Smith

Hammond Times, October 20, 1943

A Flying Fortress squadron leader, Lt. Eldon Smith, who was listed missing in action on Sept. 16 when his plane went down in the English channel after completion of a bombing mission over Paris, France, was reported a prisoner of the German government Saturday, according to a telegram received by his father from the war department.

Never giving up hope that his son might still be alive, W. R. Smith, vice president of the State Bank of Whiting, through information given by the International News Service and a picture of the crew members taken before the flight, Smith contacted every family of the 10 crew members.

His first news of the young flyer's safety came early Saturday morning from the parents of Lt. James Cramer of Rawson, Ohio, young Smith's co-pilot, who received word their own son and Lt. Smith were prisoners in Germany. The war department's telegram came later in the afternoon, verifying the report from Lt. Cramer's parents.

The 24-year-old lieutenant is a veteran of many bombing flights over Germany and occupied France. He has been in service a little more than a year and a half and was stationed in England early this June. His parents live at

7719 Bennett avenue in Chicago. One brother, Robert, is an air cadet at San Antonio, Tex., and a second, Rollen, is at Tulsa, Okla.

## DICKEY IN NORTH AFRICA



J. F. Dickey

Hammond Times, October 20, 1943

Cpl. Joseph F. Dickey of Whiting sent word to his fiance Jay Marek also of Whiting just recently that he had been promoted to corporal in the U. S. army somewhere in north Africa.

Cpl. Dickey had been employed at the Standard Oil company in Whiting before his induction into the service. The Whiting corporal has been overseas several months.

## GILBERT IN AFRICA



Staff Sgt. Gilbert

Hammond Times, October 20, 1943

Staff Sgt. George Nye Gilbert of Hammond has arrived safely overseas and is stationed now in North Africa, according to recent word received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. N. Gilbert.

A graduate of Hammond high school, Gilbert attended Western State Teachers college at Kalamazoo, Mich., and later was employed in the East Chicago plant of the American Steel foundries.

He entered the service about 14 months ago and before being sent overseas was trained at Lincoln Neb., and Fort Benning, Ga.



## LT. DeBOER ENJOYS LEAVE AFTER SOUTH SEA FIGHTING

Hammond Times, October 20, 1943

Home on leave in Munster, 1st Lt. Eugene DeBoer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Luke DeBoer, 1615 Ridge road, is enjoying all the familiar things he thought about during his 15 months in the south seas.

He piloted a fighter plane in 80 combat missions during the battles of New Guinea, is credited with bringing down two enemy aircraft, and in three separate citations was awarded the silver star, distinguished flying cross and the air medal.

While he admits the Japs were often uncomfortably close, he has returned with no personal injuries, after more than 600 hours in the air.

His 29-day leave includes traveling time, says Lt. DeBoer.

On Saturday, a neighbor, Maurice Kraay, accompanied the Munster hero to Purdue, where they visited his pal Bob Kraay, who is studying under the navy specialist training program. Kraay was the flyer's buddy at Thornton Junior College at the time Lt. DeBoer enlisted in the army air forces.

Munster is proud to welcome home its distinguished native son.

## WINS SECOND STRIPE



T. Seremet

Hammond Times, August 29, 1943

A graduate of Hammond Catholic Central high school, Thomas J. Seremet, 21-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Seremet, 3831 Evergreen street, in East Chicago's Indiana Harbor section, was recently promoted to corporal while stationed in the Hebrides islands in the Caribbean sea. Prior to enlisting in the marines on Aug. 28, 1942, he was employed at the Indiana Forge and Machine company. A brother, Pfc. John J. Seremet, is now with an army detachment at Camp Adair, Ore.

## PVT. COULIS WINS PURPLE HEART



A. Coulis

Hammond Times, August 29, 1943

Add to Hammond list of war heroes the name of Pvt. Anthony Paul Coulis of the U. S. marines, who has been awarded the decoration of the Purple Heart by President Roosevelt for heroism and being wounded in the left arm during the hard fighting on New Georgia island in the south Pacific area last July 20.

The Hammond hero is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Coulis of 4733 Hohman avenue. He is only 21 years old; has been in service a year and before that worked as an estimator for the American Steel foundry. He is a graduate of George Rogers Clark high school and was president of his 1941 graduating class.

The letter of the decoration was sent to the parents by Adm. W. F. Halsey, USN, who acted for the president.

The Coulis' have another son, Pvt. Steve Coulis, in service with the air corps in New Mexico.

## SAFE ACROSS POND

Hammond Times, October 25, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur have heard from their son, Robert Wilbur, who has arrived safely in England. Robert's home is at 18 Midway court, Hammond. He was a student at Ball State Teachers' college, Muncie, Ind., before entering service in February. His address is APO 4834, care postmaster, New York.



## MUNSTER PILOT WINS DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS



E. C. DeBoer

Hammond Times, October 25, 1943

One of the real heroes of the south Pacific fighting is First Lt. Eugene C. DeBoer of Munster, who recently was decorated with the coveted Distinguished Flying Cross in ceremonies held in an advance echelon, fifth air force base, somewhere in New Guinea, the war department announced today. The young Munster officer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Luke DeBoer, 1615 Ridge road, and won his wings following 10 weeks' advanced training at Merced, California.

A Hammond high school graduate and ex-Thornton Junior college student, Lt. DeBoer had the medal pinned on his breast along with Carlos E. Dannacher of Anderson, Ind.; Lewis D. Raines, Louisville, Ga., and John M. Davis, Red Oak, Ia.

## FIVE SONS IN SERVICE

Hammond Times, October 25, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Wolf, 6648 Alexander street, have received recent mail from their son, Cpl. Robert C. Wolf, informing them he is now in the hospital at Fresno, Cal. He is a radio technician. Robert would be tickled to hear from his friends. His address is 343rd signal company wing, Camp Pinedale, Fresno, Cal. He has seen eight months of service.

Bob's brother, Harold, also in the army eight months, is in the quartermaster division, Busbee, Ariz.

Another brother, Cpl. Louis, Jr., has 20 months' service to his credit, and is with the telegraph and telephone communication section overseas.

Still another brother is with the merchant marine. He's Fred, somewhere at sea. A fifth brother, John, in service five months, serves with the amphibian air corps at Corpus Christi, Tex.

## THE BROTHERS ECHTERLING



J. E. Echterling



C. J. Echterling

Hammond Times, October 25, 1943

A second lieutenant in the marines, Clarence J. Echterling graduated from reserve officers' school at Quantico, Va., on Sept. 22.

He attended Purdue university and enlisted last January. He is a member of the Purdue chapter, Alpha Chi Rho fraternity.

Lt. Echterling was majoring in animal husbandry at Purdue and for three and a half years was a member of Purdue ROTC artillery unit.

Master Sgt. James E. Echterling, after completing 12 weeks' training at Camp Wallace, Tex., has been stationed at Seward, Alaska, for 21 months where he is acting post sergeant major.

Sgt. Echterling found conditions quite primitive upon arrival, and thinks it's about the poorest place in the world for weather. His buddies deem this an understatement.

He is a graduate of Lowell high school and Gary Business college. Both are sons of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Echterling, R. R. No. 2, Lowell.



### THREE KNOERZER SONS IN SERVICE



Eugene

Ralph

Bob

Hammond Times, October 25, 1943

Three stalwart sons of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Knoerzer, 811 Buffalo avenue, Calumet City, are now serving their country: Eugene, a first class seaman, and Ralph, aviation machinist mate, third class, in the navy, and Bob, a technical sergeant, in the army. All three attended Thornton Fractional high school. Ralph, 21 and in service for 11 months, is at Norfolk, Va. Bob, 23, and a soldier for a little more than a year, is at Fort Lewis, Wash. Eugene, 18, recently finished boot training at Great Lakes and spent a 9-day leave at home. The Knoerzer's son-in-law, Dick Trammell, a radio man, third class, is on active duty in the north Atlantic.

### PROMOTED TO MASTER SERGEANT



Sgt. C. E. Lutes

Hammond Times, October 25, 1943

Word has been received that Sgt. Clayton E. Lutes, known to his friends as "Bus," has been advanced in rank to master sergeant,

after only seven months in service.

His wife, Mrs. Arlene Lutes, and son, Ronnie, formerly living with her parents in Michigan, are now making their home with Mrs. Wilbur Bothwell, 2715 — 164th place.

Sgt. Lutes is the son of Mrs. Myrtle Ehrlich, 3016 Crane place, Hammond.

He is in the engineer corps and at present is serving overseas. Before his enlistment he was affiliated with Local 150 of the operating engineers.

### LT. KACER HOME FROM OVERSEAS



E. L. Kacer

Hammond Times, October 25, 1943

Lt. E. L. Kacer, 31, on leave from abroad, is spending the week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Kacer, 1216 — 120th street, Whiting, entertaining old friends and renewing acquaintances.

Lt. Kacer is wearing the American and African theater service ribbons. Now a first lieutenant and in charge of all statistical control for the entire South American theater, Kacer was recently appointed to the commanding general's staff.

He will return to his foreign post immediately upon completing the special mission which brought him to the army air forces headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Lt. Kacer was born in Whiting, graduating from University of Illinois and Whiting high school, and has been in service since May, 1942. He was formerly employed at Lever Brothers. He has a brother, Edward, and two sisters, Martha, and Mrs. M. A. Miller, 2120 Davis avenue, Whiting.



## CORPORAL'S NEW HOME



Anthony Jaeger

Hammond Times, October 25, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Nick Jaeger were overjoyed today when friends brought them the glad tidings that their son, Cpl. Anthony Jaeger, 24, was safe with the U. S. air forces "somewhere in Italy."

The news was transferred to the parents by Mrs. Ben Pennington, 4713 Johnson street, Hammond, who saw an account of the young Lowell corporal in a morning Chicago newspaper.

Mrs. Pennington said that the corporal roomed at her home during the time he worked at the Grasselli Chemical company in East Chicago prior to joining the air force 18 months ago as a glider pilot.

"His parents nor members of my family have not heard from Anthony since last August and, of course, we were elated to read the newspaper account this morning and to learn he was safe," Mrs. Pennington said.

The newspaper account told of Jaeger and three others, Americans and a Britisher, members of an anti-aircraft battery of the 12th air support command, making their "home" in the wing of a wrecked Italian bomber lying in the mud of an enemy air field in Italy.

Cpl. Jaeger said that discarded wire laced across the frame top makes a resting place comparable to anything claimed by the famed mattress advertisements. Jaeger is squad leader of one of the gun crews. A shell hole in the wing is an outlet for a heating stove pipe.

A stove, made from a gasoline drum, burns wood and makes the "home" as comfortable as a Park avenue penthouse, the boys said.

## BROTHERS FLYING HIGH



L. Cunningham



B. Cunningham

Hammond Times, October 25, 1943

The Cunningham boys are both in the air corps. Bruce is a flight officer, a fighter pilot who has downed at least two German planes overseas. And Larquis Cunningham, a staff sergeant, recently won his pilot's wings at Lanesa, Tex., where he took liaison pilot training.

Staff Sgt. Larquis Cunningham, spending a 10-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ozro Cunningham, 6339 Monroe avenue, Hammond, graduated from Hammond high school in 1939. He is slated to go to Durham, N. C., as a member of the 121st liaison squadron.

Flight Officer Bruce Cunningham has served nine months overseas, taken part in numerous missions in the Mediterranean area, and graduated from Hammond high school, class of '40.

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## REPORT HAMMOND SOLDIER HELD PRISONER OF WAR IN GERMAN CAMP

Hammond Times, October 24, 1943

Staff Sgt. George Kish, son of Mrs. Anna Kish, 7638 Northcote avenue, Hammond, was reported to be a prisoner of war of the Germans today by the war department.

Sgt. Kish's name was included in a list of 368 American soldiers held prisoners by Germany, Italy and Rumania.



## BACK TO CAMP —BECOMES SERGEANT



P. Tsouchlos

Hammond Times, October 25, 1943

Sgt. Pete Tsouchlos had a pleasant surprise awaiting him when he returned to Camp Forrest, Tenn., from a 15-day furlough. He found he had been promoted to the rank of sergeant.

Pete is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Tsouchlos, 254 Dyer blvd., Hammond. His army address is 3517th ord. auto maint. div., Camp Forrest, Tenn.

Sgt. Tsouchlos has a brother, Gus, in the navy stationed somewhere in the Pacific for the last year. Gus' letters are cheerful and in his last letter he mentioned how much he enjoyed hearing the news from Hammond through The Hammond Times which is sent to him by the Order of Ahepa.

## FRANK SLOBODA KILLED

Hammond Times, October 24, 1943

Pfc. Frank J. Sloboda, 26, was killed Friday in an aircraft accident at Fort Benning, Ga., according to a war department telegram received yesterday by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sloboda, 4906 McCook avenue, East Chicago.

Sloboda, who had been in the army air force since Aug. 26, 1942, was a radio man on a bomber. He had been stationed at Fort Benning for about six weeks, having been transferred there from Topeka, Kansas.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete pending

further word from army officers at the Georgia camp.

In addition to his parents, the deceased, who was graduated from Washington high school in Indiana Harbor, is survived by two brothers, Steve and Julius, and two sisters, Mrs. Nick Csoma of Hammond and Mrs. Fred Blake of East Chicago.

## ON FURLOUGH



Pvt. 'Doc' Kott



Sgt. Chrustowski



Lt. Bob Leas

Hammond Times, October 27, 1943

Three former employes of The Hammond Times editorial and advertising departments who now are serving with the armed forces returned simultaneously to their homes this week on furlough.

But, although the former newspapermen were considered ace reporters when they were working for this newspaper a short time ago, The Times learned nothing of military importance about the war — because the newspaper-soldiers held themselves to the wartime code of saying little about their work for Uncle Sam.

They "enjoy army life" and are "itching for overseas action," the three agreed.

Visiting here were Pvt. A. J. "Doc" Kott, former police reporter, who was happiest of the trio because he saw his infant son for the first time; Sgt. Steve Chrustowski, veteran Whiting representative, and Lt. Robert "Bob" Leas, former advertising salesman and ad-lay-out man.

Kott is based at Fort McClellan, Ala., and is scheduled to leave for a port of embarkation on the west coast soon; Chrustowski is stationed in New Orleans, La., and Leas is training in a camp in Kentucky.



## SENDS CABLE: HE'S SAFE



E. Jacques

Hammond Times, November 4, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Edson L. Jacques, 6643 Jackson avenue, Hammond, received word from their son, Cpl. Eugene W. Jacques, telling of his safe arrival in England.

Cpl. Jacques was inducted October, 1942, and has been stationed at Warner Robins field, Macon, Ga. He was a student at Hammond high school, and Purdue university, before entering service.

## VIC. WRITES "COMMUNITY NOTE"

Hammond Times, October 28, 1943

Victor Gironda, stationed at Pearl Harbor in the navy canteen there, writes in a self-styled "community letter" to this paper that several celebrities have passed through his bailiwick recently.

Victor is best known to the local boys-about-town as Joey Boyle.

Visitors to the Pearl Harbor base, mentioned by Boyle, have been Mrs. Roosevelt, Sens. Chandler, Mead, Russell and Brewster, and Slapsie Maxie Rosenbloom.

Joey recently served as announcer at a boxing bout in the Hall of Flags, Honolulu. The fisticuffs were refereed by Comdr. Gene Tunney.

## HARTGE SAFE OVERSEAS

Hammond Times, November 4, 1943

On Sept. 19 a cablegram arrived for Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Hartge, 2457 — 178th street, from their son, Pfc. Walter Hartge, from overseas, stating: "am all right, don't worry." Having received no previous notice from the government, the Hartges were puzzled by the message until last week when their son wrote that he was sending them the purple heart which had been awarded to him by the government for being wounded in action in the Italian sector. On Saturday another letter arrived, stating: "I'm wounded a little, but I'm all right."

Another son, Pfc. Erwin Hartge, spent his week-end pass from Camp Campbell, Ky., with his parents.

## THORP LICKS FLU, NAZIS



J. Thorp

Hammond Times, November 4, 1943

Petty Officer 3/c Jim Thorp, on active duty somewhere in the Fediterranean theater, recently recovered from a case of the flu. Jim says it was "just a touch of cat fever," and, after a few days in a "flu bag," he was better than ever.

Petty Officer 3/c Thorp, son of Mrs. Jessie A. Thorp, 28 Ruth street, Hammond, took part in the Tunisian, Sicilian and Italian campaigns. Next to his family, Jim says he misses most seeing the Chicago Bears play football on Sunday afternoons.





John E. Kish

Hammond Times, October 29, 1943

After 18 months of active duty in the southwest Pacific area, Petty Officer John F. Kish, a machinist's mate first-class, is spending a furlough at home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Kish, 7638 Northcote avenue. While in the Pacific theater of war, he participated in five major campaign battles.

Kish has two brothers with the armed forces, Staff Sgt. George, a bombardier gunner in the army air force, and Harry, a metal-smith second-class. Sgt. George now is a prisoner of war in a German camp, while Harry is completing his training at a naval school at Mare Island, Cal.

#### LT. DeBOER HOME FROM WAR FRONT

Hammond Times, November 4, 1943

Folks of this community will turn out Saturday night to pay homage to one of the fighting heroes of the war.

He is Lt. Eugene C. DeBoer, a fighter pilot, who blasted Japs out of the skies in battles over New Guinea. For gallantry in action, the young lieutenant has received three citations.

Townpeople, friends and relatives are invited to meet him and enjoy an evening of informal visiting after a short program of music and addresses by Rev. J. H. Monsma, Rev. Martin Van Dyke and Henry Harder.

The Munster school band and a few of Mrs. Viola DeBoer Brown's pupils will furnish the music.

Ladies are asked to bring sandwiches or a cake or cookies, and coffee will be made at the school. Mrs. Case Kikkert will be in charge of handling the food.



I. Tapajna

Hammond Times, November 4, 1943

Words of the promotion of WAC Irene Tapajna to first lieutenant at Camp Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., was received here this week by her mother, Mrs. Gizella Tapajna, 2110 Schrage avenue, Whiting.

Lt. Tapajna, 24 years old, has been in service slightly more than a year, having quit her position at the American Trust and Savings bank, Whiting, to enlist. Before that she was employed by the Tapajna Paper company.

A graduate of Whiting high school, Lt. Tapajna has a brother who is in service, Pvt. William Tapajna, now serving overseas; another brother, Joseph, and two sisters, Gertrude and Mrs. Margaret Leslie.

#### RODDA LANDS IN ENGLAND

Hammond Times, November 10, 1943

According to word from their son, Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Rodda, 949 Murray street, Hammond, were glad to hear that Pfc. Edward D. Rodda arrived safely in England.

Pfc. Rodda was inducted Jan., 1943, and had been stationed at Alliance, Neb. He graduated from Hammond high school and was employed by Cities Service company prior to entering Uncle Sam's armed forces.



## DYER GIRL GOES OVERSEAS



E. M. Gettler

Hammond Times, November 4, 1943

Lt. Eunice M. Gettler, an army nurse who entered service last August 2 at Camp McCoy, Wis., sailed Oct. 21 from a west coast port for overseas duty, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gettler, were advised this week.

Lt. Gettler, who graduated from St. Joseph's hospital, Joliet, as an x-ray technician, received training at the Wisconsin camp and at Camp Blanding, Fla., and Camp Stoneham, Cal. She now is assigned to the 227th station hospital with an overseas mailing address of No. 772528, APO 4873, in care of the postmaster at San Francisco, Cal.

A sister, Charlotte, entered St. Margaret's hospital this fall to obtain nurses' training and a brother, Pfc. Homer Gettler, now is in training at Camp Ruckert, Ala. Lt. Gettler has two other sisters, Mrs. J. R. Donichy and Thelma, and another brother, Paul.

## SOLDIERS DEATH UPSETS PLANS



Pfc. Tavarczyk

Hammond Times, November 4, 1943

The death of Pfc. Charles Tavarczyk, Indiana Harbor soldier who was killed accidentally at Camp Hulen, Tex., last week upset

his plans to establish his home near the camp, it was revealed today.

At the time of his death Tavarczyk had just returned to camp after a 12-day furlough spent in Indiana Harbor. His wife, the former Miss Anna Mary Uriss, had accompanied him back to camp and the young couple planned to establish a home at Palacios, Tex., until Tavarczyk's orders for overseas service.

They were married Dec. 5, 1942 and formerly lived at 3917 Grand boulevard. Tavarczyk entered service Jan. 7, 1943.

## CALUMET CITY MOTHER OVERJOYED TO RECEIVE LETTER FROM SON

Hammond Times, November 4, 1943

"I believe that I am the happiest mother in the United States today!"

Thus spoke Mrs. Frank McCullough, of 585 Freeland avenue, Calumet City, as she nervously opened a letter which she had just received from her only son, Norman, 23. The letter was written in her son's handwriting from a Nazi prison camp in Italy and censored by a German officer.

The mother's happiness was shared by her husband.

"We have not heard from our boy since Feb. 1 and we were almost heartbroken at the suspense," she said. The letter was dated April 8. It said in part:

Dear Folks:

"Well, I suppose you have wondered what was wrong, since my writing has stopped. I am a prisoner of war somewhere in Italy. The food is all right and we have reasonable sleeping quarters. I even had a good piece of chocolate recently. I am working every day but not too hard. Don't worry."

Before enlisting in the army two years ago, Norman, who is a private first class, worked for the Inland Steel. He was a member of the tank corps that took part in the heavy fighting that resulted in the invasion of Italy.



## CLAIM VETERANS ARE NEAR DEATH

Hammond Times, October 27, 1943

Two Hammond men who served with the army in Cuba during the Spanish-American war and in France during World war I are near death today at Edward J. Hines hospital, Chicago, according to word received by their relatives here who were called to the bedsides of the dying men yesterday.

Past commander of Edward H. Larsen post No. 802, of Hammond, Edward M. Pinney, who was sent to Camp Columbia, Cuba, after his enlistment with the army on July 20, 1898, retired last July as post commander because of ill health. Today his daughter, Mrs. Frany Morenz, with whom he lived at 518 — 173rd street, is with the dying veteran at the hospital.

Edwin Hitzeman, who enlisted Oct. 4, 1917, and sailed for France with the 152nd infantry of the 30th division on Oct. 6, 1918, has a son, Sgt. Raymond E. Hitzeman with the army air corps in the second World war. His sister, Mrs. William Sauer of Hammond, was called to his bedside yesterday.

## JEURGENS NOW A 2-STRIPER



R. Juergens

Hammond Times, November 9, 1943

A duet of chevrons now sings out the news from the sleeve of Cpl. Walter R. Juergens that he has advanced to that rank at an air base in England.

Cpl. Juergens is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Juergens, 437 Lewis street, Hammond. He has two brothers in the service, Pvt. Frederick Juergens, somewhere in the south Pacific, and Sgt. Kenneth Juergens, serving in the Mediterranean area.

## LT. CAVAN BOMBARDIER

Hammond Times, November 4, 1943

Lt. Charles H. Cavan, Hammond, is now the bombardier of a Flying Fortress crew at the Walla Walla army air base, Wash., where he and his crewmates are receiving last phase training before being shipped to an overseas combat area. Lt. Cavan is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Cavan and was commissioned a second lieutenant in May, 1943. He received his early training at Ephrata, Wash., air base. His wife is Mrs. Marilyn Cavan, residing with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Watt, 6335 Harrison street.

## WHITING SOLDIER WOUNDED

Hammond Times, November 12, 1943

Second Lt. Edward J. Hicko, of Whiting, was reported yesterday by the war department to have been wounded in action. The message was received by his father, Steve Hicko, 2046 Lake avenue, Whiting.

## DICK CROWE IN PACIFIC AREA



R. Crowe

Hammond Times, November 10, 1943

Serving somewhere in the Pacific area, Cpl. Richard F. Crowe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Crowe, 7050 Alabama street, Hessville, has been in service since Jan., 1943.

He married Patricia Ann Hollowell of Hammond, in Oct., 1942, and attended Morton and Hammond Tech school class of '41. Cpl. Crowe trained at Camp Haan, Calif., in the anti-aircraft division of the coast artillery.

Pfc. Robert W. Crowe, Dick's brother, is receiving his training in the field artillery at Camp Bowle, Tex. Bob also is a Tech graduate, class of '43, and was inducted in April.



## SECOND SON IS KILLED

### Mrs. Steve Mores Learns Soldier-Son Died in Italy; Other at Sea

Hammond Times, November 12, 1943

A true American mother, Mrs. Steve Mores of Whiting, who lost her merchant marine son, Frank, at sea last March, has taken the news of the death of another son, Pvt. Steve, courageously knowing he made the supreme sacrifice for his country.

Steve, a 29-year-old private in the army medical division, was killed in action in Italy. The war department's telegram gave no further details regarding the tragedy. Steve lived with his mother at 2030 Davis avenue before his enlistment January, 1942.

Gold star mother for a second time now, Mrs. Mores has another son in the armed forces, Joseph, a seaman, first class, of the coast guards. She also has two other sons, Father Bernard, a priest of Monroe, Mich., and Edmond, 13 years old.

## SCHULTZ IS CONFUSED



E. Schultz

Visiting a race track in Australia where he is stationed, Sgt. Elmer M. Schultz was mildly distracted to find the horses running in the opposite direction than the manner which they follow in this country.

Sgt. Schultz is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Schultz, 5528 Alice avenue, Hammond. He was a member of the famous Hammond High debate team of a few years ago which, consisting of Wayne Minnick, Eleanor Admiral, Elverta Sohl and Schultz, won many championships in forensics across the country.

Before donning the boots of the horse cavalry, Elmer worked for many years at American Steel corporation.

## KISHES SEE PLENTY OF ACTION

Hammond Times, November 12, 1943

Well, first there's Petty Officer John Kish, who has seen four years service, 15 months of it on active sea duty in the Solomons. John, with his PO 1/c rating, is on his way to bigger and better things by attending Diesel school at Norfolk, Va.



J. Kish

He spent a 16-day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Kish, of 7638 Northcote avenue, Hammond, before taking up his Diesel training recently.



H. Kish

Mr. and Mrs. Kish have two other sons in service. Harry is a metalsmith 2/c stationed at Mare Island, Calif., and S/Sgt. George Kish



G. Kish

who is interned in Germany, having been taken prisoner while serving in the air corps of southern Italy.



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# 26 Days in Life Boat

Hammond Times, November 12, 1943

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"My clothes were blown off me by the blast . . . we ate raw fish with relish . . . had eight ounces of water a day to drink . . . existed on rationed malted milk tablets . . . finally made land in 26 days . . ."

Undramatically—almost as if he were reciting his impressions of a Sunday school picnic—comes one of Hammond's first-hand accounts of heroism of American merchant seamen who spent 26 days in an open life boat on a storm-tossed sea after their ship had been torpedoed and sunk by a Nazi submarine crew.

## *Told in Letter Home*

Events of the torpedoing, the days and nights in the lifeboat and his subsequent rescue by other American sailors were not intended for publication when they were set down by Able Seaman Win Beckett in a letter addressed to his sister, Mrs. Gretchen Howe, 220 Highland avenue, Hammond. But they give such a dramatic picture of the sea warfare Mrs. Howe in turn passed the letter on to friends.

Beckett, who now is having "a few pieces of steel shreds removed from my back" in a Denver, Colo., hospital following his return to the United States by the rescue ship, started his letter with the casual statement:

"As you may already know, we had a little excitement on this last trip."

Seaman Beckett was sleeping on a deck cot at the time of the torpedoing and the shot, hitting directly below him at the waterline, tore a gaping hole in the stern of the ship and deposited him below-deck amidst flaming oil.

"First thing I knew," he wrote, "I was standing in black fuel oil up to my knees. For several minutes I thought I was trapped. Fire broke out almost immediately and, of course, this added to the already general confusion. Our guns were put out of commission by the blasts and the stern of the ship was broken

almost in half.

## *Made Way Forward*

"I managed to make my way to the gun deck—which was so covered with oil that I could hardly stand up. I hadn't noticed until then that I was walking around nude—guess the explosion blew my clothes off me. Anyhow, I finally got into a lifejacket. Next thing I had to do was to get off the ship before it sank."

Six other men and he managed to get back to the forward part of the ship, arriving just in time to crowd into the last lifeboat to leave the doomed vessel. The rest of the crew thought the six had perished in the flames and had already set off in lifeboats.

Twenty-two sailors crowded into the boat into which Beckett leaped and the four lifeboats pulled away from the ship and close enough together to get last-minute instructions from their captain.

"Just after we had pulled close together," Beckett recounted, "the sub that sank us surfaced. Up until then I hadn't been really scared but when that sub appeared I thought it was all over for us. Fortunately it was a German submarine because if it had been Japanese—well!"

## *Nazi Captain "Sporting"*

"Speaking very good English, the Nazi sub captain asked us several questions regarding our ship and then, in a very sporting gesture, told us where we were and in which direction to steer for land. He also offered us medical attention to those men who needed it but none of us accepted. The sub vanished below surface almost as quickly as it had appeared."

For the next 26 days, the survivors weathered high waves, blisteringly hot days and freezing night winds — eating raw fish

Continued on next page



they managed to catch, nibbling hungrily on the malted milk tablets, drinking thirstily only eight ounces of water daily.

Then, as an anti-climax to their terrifying adventure — the seamen landed on an island inhabited by natives — “all of whom we later learned were murderers — but they treated us royally while we were there, appearing very friendly towards us at all times.”

Soon afterwards proper authorities were notified of their plight and the survivors were re-rescued from their island and brought back here.

And as for Beckett:

“I’ll be good as new soon and my buddy, Walt, and I are shipping out on the next boat. We’ve managed to stick together this long — he was a great help to me in the lifeboat — and we want to try to stay together as long as we can.”

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### MOYNAHAN NOW IN WALES

Hammond Times, November 12, 1943

Mrs. Darwin Dietzman has received word that her brother, Pfc. Clemens “Bud” Moynahan, arrived safely in Wales recently.

Mrs. Dietzman lives at 7206 Osborn street, Hammond. She has another brother, Pvt. William Moynahan, stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. The boys lived in Hammond until a few years ago when they moved to Chicago.

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### HUSBAND WRITES

Hammond Times, November 12, 1943

Mrs. Elmer Long has received word from her husband, Tech. Sgt. Elmer Long, stating that he has arrived safely somewhere in England. Second Class Petty Officer Charles Boscamp of Norfolk, Va., is spending a furlough with relatives, Mrs. Elizabeth Smith and family, and fiancée, Miss Lois Spitz. Leo Welch, who is serving in the navy, is spending a short leave here in Griffith with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Welch, of Lafayette street. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brown of Kopelka street in Griffith received a cablegram from their son, Ralph, that he has arrived safely in England. Mrs. Marion Coulter has been notified of the safe arrival of her husband, Sgt. Marion Coulter, in England, Mrs. Coulter is the former Naomi Taylor.

## EDWARD HITZEMAN WILL BE BURIED

Hammond Times, November 14, 1943

Dying a few days after the death of one of his best friends, Edwin Hitzeman, 47, World war I veteran will be buried at 2 o’clock Monday afternoon in Elmwood cemetery beside the grave of the late Edward Pinney, buried Thursday. Both were members of the Edward H. Larsen post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Hammond.

Hitzeman died Friday night in Hines Veterans hospital, Hines, Ill., following a major operation. He lived at 824 Carroll street. Surviving him are a son, Tech. Sgt. Raymond E., stationed at Sioux Falls, S. D., a daughter, First Class Seaman Lillian, of the naval air station at Livermore, Cal., his father Fred Hitzeman, three sisters, Mrs. Dorothy Sauers, Mrs. Bernice Helmer and Mrs. Alice Beckwith, all of Hammond, a brother, Alvin, of Modesto, Cal., and a granddaughter, Ronna Mae Hitzeman. His wife died in 1923.

The veteran was born in Dyer in 1896. He enlisted in the army Oct. 4, 1917, and sailed for France Oct. 6, 1918, serving in Co. D, 152nd infantry. He was discharged April 24, 1919.

He was employed by the IHB railroad for the past 15 years and was a member of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks’ union. He was active in the affairs of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Hammond. Comdr. Meissner of the Larsen post has invited members to view the deceased in the Emmerling chapel tonight at 8.

The body will be taken to the Immanuel Evangelical church at 670 Sibley street at 10 Monday morning where it will lie in state until 2 p. m. Services will be conducted by the Rev. Paul G. Schaefer. Full military honors are planned.

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### DEBOLD DISEMBARKS

Hammond Times, November 22, 1943

Pvt. Ray DeBold, son of Joe DeBold, 14 — 156th place, Calumet City, has arrived safely overseas and is now in north Africa.

He writes that on the way over they had regular entertainment, that “it was more like a camp in the states” and that you forgot you were aboard a ship on the seas.



# War's Cost

120,967 U. S. CASUALTIES IN 19 MONTHS  
MONTHS; 32 BILLION SINCE JULY 1

Hammond Times, November 14, 1943

The United State government has spent as much in the four and one-third months since July 1 as the total cost of World War I to this nation—\$32,830,000,000.

In the same four and one-third months the public debt of the nation has risen more than it did during the first World war. Since July 1, when the 1944 fiscal year began, the debt has increased by \$28,686,000,000 to about \$169,500,000,000. The increase in the last war was \$24,928,000,000.

The \$32,830,000,000 figured by the government as the total cost of World War I included \$23,424,000,000 of actual war costs and \$9,406,000,000 of loans made to other governments immediately after the war.

The \$32,800,000,000 of government expenditures since July 1, shown on the treasury daily statement, includes normal government expenses of \$2,200,000,000 and war spending of \$30,600,000,000.

Included in the war spending is some \$4,400,000,000 laid out for lend-lease. This would make the actual war expenses for the four and one-third months \$26,200,000,000, or nearly \$3,000,000,000 more than total actual war costs of World War I.

Revenues collected by the government since July 1 has exceeded those of the 1917, 1918 and 1919 World War I period by almost \$2,000,000,000, and the actual amount of taxes collected was about \$5,000,000,000 greater.

Total revenues so far in fiscal 1944 have amounted to \$13,150,000,000. In the World War I period they totaled \$1,280,000,000.

Income and excess profits taxes since July 1 have amounted to \$11,539,000,000 compared with \$6,712,000,000 in all of World War I.

American armed service casualties in 23 months of the current war have totaled 120,967, compared with total U. S. casualties of 271,888 in the 19 months of American participation in World War I.

Of the casualties in this war, only 25,389 are listed as dead, compared with 50,280 battle deaths in the first World war. The latter figure does not include deaths from disease, accident and other non-battle causes, which would bring the total of 126,000, a figure for which no comparable total is available for this war. An additional 32,953 of the current war's casualties are listed as missing.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson lists total army casualties to date as 89,650 — 12,841 killed, 30,263 wounded, 23,954 missing and 22,592 taken prisoner. A navy casualty list showed naval force casualties, including marines and coast guardsmen, to be 31,317—12,548 dead, 5,542 wounded, 8,999 missing and 4,228 prisoners.

Stimson's statement listed army casualties of the last war as 260,496—35,560 killed in action, 14,720 died of wounds, 205,690 wounded, 46 missing in action and 4,480 taken prisoner. Marine casualties in conflict were 10,521 and navy casualties 871.

The army is nearing its goal of 7,700,000 officers and men, and by the end of the year 2,500,000 of these fighting men will be serving overseas.

By comparison, the U. S. army at the war's end in 1918, comprised 4,057,101 officers and enlisted men, of whom 2,086,000 were serving overseas.

Army air forces number close to 2,800,000 officers and men and pilots are being trained at the rate of 75,000 a year.



Hammond Times, November 14, 1943

A mixed choir composed of personnel from the military railway service headquarters and the WAC, has been formed in north Africa with Pfc. John B. Myhers of Eau Claire, Wis.

The choir personnel includes M/Sgt. Harold J. Buring, 5256 Ann avenue, Hammond.

The group sings regularly on the local Radio France station and the American expeditionary station. In addition they plan to accept special concert bookings and will visit hospitals in the fighting areas over the Christmas season.

A request to Fred Waring in New York recently brought the choir a group of more than a dozen new Ringwald and Churchill arrangements used by Waring on his radio program, *Pleasure Time*, over the NBC network nightly.



R. M. Kearns

Hammond Times, November 17, 1943

Mrs. M. J. Kearns and daughter, formerly of East Chicago, now of Chicago, are proud of their son and brother, Ensign Richard M. Kearns, 23, who now is at San Francisco embarkation center.

Ensign Kearns has been in service since July. He trained at Abbott hall, Northwestern university. He is a Purdue graduate.

#### HITZEMAN ON LEAVE



R. Hitzeman

Hammond Times, November 17, 1943

Ralph V. Hitzeman, torpedoman 3/c, spent a five-day leave with his family, the Ben W. Hitzeman's of Cedar Lake, recently. He was en route to Millerville, R. I.

While in Millerville, he will take intensive training and ultimately will be assigned to duty on a PT boat. He has completed torpedo school training at Keyport, Wash., where he experienced actual firing and retrieving of torpedos.

Ralph is a graduate of Dyer high school and, before wearing the blue, was employed by the Gold Seal Roofing company, Chicago Heights, Ill. T 3/c Hitzeman joined the navy in December, 1942.

#### GROAT THINKS NAVY IS GREAT



V. Groat

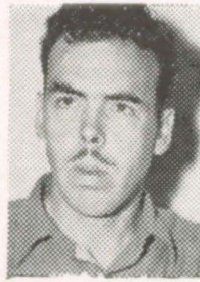
Hammond Times, November 17, 1943

Three rating promotions in the past five months is the record of Petty Officer Virgil E. Groat, electrician's mate 2/c, son of Mr. and Mrs. V. A. Groat, 4925 Linden avenue, Hammond.

He attended Irving and Hammond Tech schools and celebrated his 17th birthday July 7, 1942, by joining the navy. His "boot" at Great Lakes was followed by the Detroit naval electrical school. P/O Groat then saw action in the African campaign.

He was transferred from shipboard to Benton Harbor, Mich., for construction work.



**F. L. Paul**

Hammond Times, November 21, 1943

The joke was on Tech. Sgt. Francis Lee Paul, 37-year-old marine, whose East Chicago (Ind.) home is at 4719 Drummond street, one night during a Japanese naval attack in the vicinity of his Guadalcanal post last November, Paul, who had boasted he was "one of the best communications men on Guadalcanal," saw the lights of a plane which appeared to be headed straight for a crash on his observation post.

"The joke was on me," said Sgt. Paul, "for the lights were two shells from an enemy cruiser. I discovered this too late for the instant I spotted them, I dived off the observation stand, nearly wrecking some of our equipment and frightening other fellows with me in my flight. The shells went above us and landed to the rear, harming nothing."

Sgt. Paul is the husband of Mrs. Mary Elaine Paul of East Chicago and the son of Mrs. F. L. Paul of 111 South Cornell avenue, Villa Park, Ill. The Calumet area marine is convalescing at this hospital from malaria. During five months under enemy bombing raids, Paul suffered slight concussion only twice.

### HAMMOND SOLDIER REPORTED MISSING

Hammond Times, November 22, 1943

Two staff sergeants, Hammond and Gary men, were reported today by the war department missing in action. They are William J. Luttringer, whose mother, Mrs. Clara M. Luttringer, lives on Route 1, Hammond, and Nick G. Rukavina, whose mother, Mrs. Glier, of 4636 Garfield street, Gary, was notified Luttringer was listed as missing in the Mediterranean area and Rukavina in Europe.

**C. L. Downing**

Hammond Times, November 22, 1943

Cpl. C. L. "Les" Downing has returned to his marine base at Quantico, Va., after a 36-hour leave to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Downing, 6731 Caroline avenue, Hammond.

Les just returned from overseas. He saw lots of action as an observation gunner in the Italian-Sicilian campaign. Cpl. Downing won three ribbons for his three theaters of war and two stars for major encounters.

In one aerial battle, the tail of his TBF plane was shot away, and a shot creased the back of the seat where he was seated. "Too close for comfort," is Les' comment.

After a short time at Quantico, he'll be off again to—who knows?

### LIST LOCAL SOLDIER DEAD

**John O'Leary**

Hammond Times, November 21, 1943

Presumption of death after being missing a year was expressed yesterday in a war department letter received by the family of Pvt. John L. O'Leary of 7416 Columbia circle east, Hammond.

Pvt. O'Leary, 42, had been but four months in service when he was listed as missing following the sinking of his troopship off the coast of north Africa. At home are his wife, Irene, two sons, Tom and Jack, and three daughters, Pat, Kathleen and Lauretta.





S. Sliwa

Hammond Times, November 22, 1943

Sgt. Stanley G. Sliwa, stationed somewhere in England, has let his folks in on the good news that he was recently promoted to that rank.

He joined up with Uncle Sam's army a year ago and embarked for overseas duty in June.

Previous to his induction, he was employed by the Junior Toy corporation, Hammond. Sgt. Sliwa is the son of Mrs. Kathryn Sliwa, 932 Ames avenue, Hammond, and has a brother, Sgt. John Sliwa, stationed in Louisiana.

## FLYING LEATHERNECK FURLONGHS



C. E. Garris

Hammond Times, November 22, 1943

Cpl. Charles E. Garris of the marine air corps was granted a 30-day furlough after 20 months combat duty in the Pacific.

The flying leatherneck is only temporarily grounded, however, because after he visits parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Garris, 7110 Jackson street, Hammond, he enrolls at Officers' Training school in California.

Cpl. Garris went into service three years ago last May. He has a brother, Lawrence, Jr., and three sisters, Laura, Emily and Ruth.

Hammond Times, November 22, 1943

Completing training aboard a Flying Fortress at this second air force station and ready soon for overseas duty is 2nd Lt. Charles J. Kurella, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kurella, 1244 Fred street, Whiting.

A graduate of the army air force training schools, for the past several months, Lt. Kurella has been a member of the second air force which trains heavy bombardment crews for aerial warfare.

## 2 SOLDIERS WOUNDED

Among 268 soldiers reported today by the war department wounded in action are the names of Pfc. Guenther A. Fehlberg, son of Mrs. Minnie Fehlberg, of 818 Morris street, Hammond, and Sgt. Robert E. Field, husband of Mrs. Eleanor J. Field, of 3824 Guthrie street, East Chicago.

The department further announces the award of the distinguished flying cross to Staff Sgt. Edward J. Girman, gunner, of 1621 Atchison avenue, Whiting.

## REGANS EXPECT SONS HOME

Hammond Times, November 25, 1943

Lt. (j.g.) William J. Regan, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Regan of 8929 Southmoor avenue, Highland, is in Washington, D. C., on leave from his base in Porto Rico, and is due home to visit his parents in a few days. The Regans have another son, Cpl. Robert Regan, who is taking his basic training in Camp McKane, La. A son-in-law, Pvt. Robert Koch, is home on a furlough from Ft. Knox, Ky. The Regan boys are well-known in the community and are graduates of Catholic Central high school. William also attended Mt. Carmel high school, and graduated from Georgetown university. Robert also attended Mt. Carmel, St. Thomas college in St. Paul, Minn.



## Hammond Man Finds Brother U. S. Captive—

### NAZI SOLDIER IN PRISON CAMP

Hammond Times, November 24, 1943

The fortunes of war, commonly responsible for the tragedies of separation, today went into a reverse and brought what promises eventually to be the reunion of two brothers.

Fred Neubronner, who runs an upholstery shop at 426 Plummer street, has not seen his brother Richard for 10 years. Today came a letter from Richard from an army prison camp at Trinidad, Colo., where he is a war captive, following his capture by American forces in North Africa. Relations of his war experiences and his reactions thereto, boil down to one pertinent fact — Richard is mighty glad to be out of the Hitler-created mess he was dragged into and glad to be in the United States where, by his own account, he is eating plenty for the first time in a long while.

Richard Neubronner, 37, went into Poland with the first German invasion in September, 1939. Subsequently he fought in Russia, later being transferred to Africa. Here, with the crumpling of Gen. Rommel's ill-fated campaign, came the end of the war—for him.

The brothers were born in Bavaria, Fred coming to this country with a third brother, Karl, of Chicago. Fred lives at 117 Mason street, Calumet City.

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## CUT OFF YANK'S FOOT WITH PROPELLER

Hammond Times, November 11, 1943

As a pilot in the famous U. S. marine squadron No. 124 bailed out of his flaming plane, a Japanese airman murderously dived his plane at the chuting figure, cutting off one of the American's feet with the propeller, Capt. Dean Raymond, 24, nephew of Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Davis, 17 Highland street, Hammond, declares.

Capt. Raymond, on a 30-day furlough, visited here, leaving yesterday afternoon for his home in Streator, Ill.

Such Japanese tactics, Capt. Raymond declared, has given every American an individual grudge.

"Uncle Sam's soldiers want to fight fair, but if the other guy insists on tossing away the rule book—well he asked for it," Raymond said.

Raymond, credited with blasting two Jap aircraft out of the skies, a Zero and a navy float plane, during the 10 months he was on active duty in and around Guadalcanal, said of the incident in which the Japanese pilot dived his plane at the American:

"I never saw Jap atrocities first hand," but others in my squadron saw a Jap pilot murderously dive his plane at one of our pilots, who had bailed out of his flaming plane, and cut off the American's foot with the plane's prop.

"Fortunately the Yank survived. The Jap, also fortunately, didn't. Treachery is costing the Japs a heavy price for no one fights like an American, especially a 'mad' American."

Although restricted by marine corps regulation from relating any personal experiences, Capt. Raymond was able to say his squadron was the first of any U. S. service branch to operate from Munda airfield at Guadalcanal. Four days after marines wrestled possession of Munda from the Japs, Capt. Raymond and other members of his squadron were operating from the air base. And Jap troops were less than five miles away.

"The navy sea-bees did a marvelous job repairing that field," he said. "Our planes were the first to land there after our ground forces took Munda and it was hard to believe that four days before Japs and Americans fought bitterly over the same ground."

Capt. Raymond believes that Japanese air superiority is on the wane.

"Our boys and planes have always been superior, of course," he continued. "But the Japs had many more veteran pilots and other airmen. Today the Jap veterans are being killed. Their replacements are unseasoned and almost untrained youths."

The "124th" is credited with downing 68 Jap planes and 30 more "probables."

In approximately two weeks Raymond reports to El Toro, Calif., where he will instruct recruits in combat tactics.

"Sure, I want to get back 'over there.' There is only one way to get this war over with — and that is by fighting. I expect to be in the battle zone within six months," he said.



## Cpl. Heisterberg Tells of the Beauty Amidst Filth of Iran

Hammond Times, November 12, 1943

"Even amidst all the filth and ugliness that exists here, the people have an innate sense of beauty and an appreciation of the beautiful," was the description of Iran given by Cpl. E. M. Heisterberg, owner of the Crown Point Transfer company, in a letter to C. W. Haight, manager of the company's East Chicago branch.

Continuing the description of the country in which he now is stationed with an army unit, Heisterberg, who was a Crown Point resident until he moved to Chicago about a year ago, wrote:

"Iran, or Persia as it used to be called is a country out of which the history of the world was made, a country through which the centuries have passed lightly, leaving little indication of their passage. The natives are a peculiar lot, either very rich or very poor, but all seem to travel in filth and grime.

"I have visited a few of the towns and I can honestly say that I have never seen such filth and degradation of the human race. The poor natives are merely hunks of flesh, their features and bodies marred by sores and scars of every disease known to man. The smell in the towns is a mixture of every disgusting and evil odor in the world. It is like a thick syrup that floats through the air, sticking to everything and contaminating all.

"But there is beauty in Iran and one needs only to pass through the bazaar to see it. The varied colors of the material in the merchants' stalls and the colorful paintings done with exquisite charm and craftsmanship seem to us Americans naive. The silver work when it is done well can hardly be surpassed anywhere in the world. And of the Persian rugs I can only say that it is necessary to look upon them with your own eyes and feel them with your own hands to really appreciate their beauty and delicacy.

"Art and craftsmanship in Persia is not a passing fad. Though it is true that there have been periods in the past when Persian art reached much higher peaks of excellence, the real art of Persia today is nothing to sneeze at.

"Comparable to the beauty produced by man is that which God has placed here. It is true that there are barren deserts and that once-great forests have passed into building lumber and food for parasites, yet there remains the great ranges of mountains that almost completely circle the central part of Iran. Snow capped the year around, their steeply rising cliffs guard the heart of this ancient kingdom.

"Not to be forgotten are the flower gardens that one can see almost anywhere. The Persians are great lovers of flowers and one can see that love in the constant repetition of the flower motif in all forms of decoration. In their gardens the flowers grow in profusion of colors, and seeing them reminds me of home."

Heisterberg added in his letter that cars in Iran have cost anywhere from \$5,000 to \$15,000.

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## SOLDIER REPORTED KILLED IN ACTION

Hammond relatives of two area men who have been serving overseas with the armed forces received notification this week from the war department, one listing a soldier as dead and the other advising a sailor is missing in action.

Listed as a casualty is Staff Sgt. Herbert A. Kalwa, brother of Wilbert Kalwa, 824 Truman boulevard, who was reported killed in fighting in the European area. Listed as missing is Seaman Herman Alvin Nowacki, electrician's mate, third class, and the son of Walter J. Nowacki, 7428 Van Buren avenue.

Sgt. Kalwa's name was included in a list of 261 soldiers reported killed in action in the Asiatic, European, Mediterranean, middle eastern, North American and Pacific theaters of war. Sailor Nowacki's name was included on a list that listed 18 men as dead, four wounded and nine missing.

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## McLOCHLIN CITED ABROAD

Pfc. Leonard R. McLochlin, son of Mrs. B. McLochlin, 5538 Claude street, Hammond, has received qualification of "marksman" in rifle marksmanship.

The army, European theater of operations, reports his score was 172, rapid fire.



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# *Letters Tell of Servicemens' Gratitude for Center. Appreciated Gifts and Attention*

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Hammond Times, November 18, 1943

"Keep up the good work and many mothers will ask God to bless you as I do. . . ."

That's the way one letter closes—a letter of thanks from a mother of a soldier, sailor or marine who found a friendly welcome at Hammond's Service Men's center.

There are many of these kind of letters; some of them are from California, others from Maine. Some are typed in imposing formal business style, while others are scrawled on inexpensive note-book paper.

But they all tell a story of touching gratitude.

## *Each Tells a Story*

Mrs. Georgia Hulsey, the center's supervisor, can spin stories around each of them.

Here's one from Montpelier, Vt., that begins: "We are very grateful for your interest in our son. Only this morning we have a letter from him telling of the cake affair. . . ."

Mrs. Hulsey laughs as she recalls "the cake affair."

"We had baked a cake for Bob," says Mrs. Hulsey. "It was his birthday. He had promised to come and help us eat it. But he over-slept, and didn't show up. He came in the next night looking very disappointed until he found we had saved him some of his cake."

## *About "Pie-Face"*

From Melrose, Mass., came this letter:

"Dear Mrs. Hulsey: I want you to know how much I appreciate your interest in Stanley. I know how much it means to him. In his last letter he told me how home-like it was and everyone was so nice to him, and he did mention the nice apple pie. That was always his favorite pie. In fact, I used to call him 'Pie-Face'."

"The next time Stanley came in to the cen-

ter," laughs Mrs. Hulsey, "we called him 'Pie-Face.' He didn't seem to care for the name so much, but he sure did go for that apple pie!"

## *Becomes Engaged*

Another letter tells of a romance that had its beginning in Hammond. This is from a California sailor.

"... and I think Hammond is a swell place to live. I met a wonderful girl while I was there on leave. You see, I come from California, but I still like Hammond best. The girl I met there I even got engaged to, so maybe I have a reason behind it."

Some letters are poignantly sharp with between-the-lines criticism of this world where men settle their differences with their sons' lives. Like this one from Chester, Pa.

## *Not Sorry He Joined*

"Dear Mrs. Hulsey: I received your card today saying Wayne had visited your service men's center. It makes me very happy to know he meets such nice folks as I know you must be.

"I must say I worried a lot when Wayne first joined the navy, as he had never been far from home before. But he seems so cheerful when he writes. In his last letter he said 'Mother, I have never been sorry I joined the navy.'"

"He is hoping to get a furlough the end of August and I do hope he can get home for a few days before going to sea.

"I know you must be very proud to know you can do this work for our boys. How I hope and pray this war will soon be over, although Wayne thinks he will stay in the navy. Thanking you once more for all you do for everyone."

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Continued on next page



Hammond Times, November 23, 1943

Mrs. Hulsey asks each service man visiting the center for his home address, then she drops the parents a card telling of their son's visit. One father in Wallula, Wash., writes:

"Since joining the service last December, Bill has made numerous visits to service centers. However, your card is the first word we have had of such visits. Needless to say, we are deeply grateful. To me, it indicates a service above average for which you can be justly proud."

Most of the letters are warmly personal, treating Mrs. Hulsey like a really close relative. This one, for instance, asks:

". . . If there is anything he needs will you please let me know. Has he enough warm clothing?"

*Letter from Fighting France*

Then there was a letter decorated with the poster-stamp of Fighting France—a blue "V" with a red fighting cock's comb on a white field. It was from a mother in London, Ontario, Canada.

"Dear Madame: (it ran) I wish to thank you for being so very good to my son. It was most kind of you to write to me. Glad to hear that Jack was looking well. He is very young to be on his own. Once again, I thank you. P.S. Please excuse errors in my letter as I am French, from dear France, and I am not very familiar with English."

The Hammond Service center is located in the Indiana hotel building, at State and Hohman streets, and has three large rooms with a complete kitchen.

There are 100 volunteer junior hostesses from various local sororities, Illinois Bell Telephone company, Northern Indiana Public Service company, St. Mary's nursing home, Queen Anne Candy company and the YWCA.

In addition, there are 111 senior hostesses from all over the region.

Bread is furnished the center by Continental, State Line and Lansing bakeries; milk by the Milk Exchange; soft drinks by Mayer, Pepsi-Cola and Coca-Cola bottling companies.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Levens, of 1134 Sibley street, Hammond, have received word from their son, Pvt. Raymond L. Levens, that his address is 899th Ord. H. A. M. Co., APO 4926 c/o Postmaster, New York City, N. Y. Their other son, Roland J. Levens, A. S., is in Co. 1768, U. S. Naval Training station at Great Lakes, Ill. Roland volunteered for officers' training and took his basic training when the school closed and he was discharged. He then enlisted in the navy.

Hammond Times, November 23, 1943

Pvt. William Manley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Manley, 4205 Ivy street, Indiana Harbor, has arrived safely overseas and is now stationed somewhere in England with his army unit. His brother, Sgt. Harold, has been transferred from the Ephrates air base in Washington to the Ardmore Army air field in Oklahoma. He is the first sergeant in a bomber plane with a crew of 11 men.

**ENTERTAIN THREE BUDDIES**

To welcome home three servicemen, a party was held for Wilton E. Hall, MM2/c, 2nd Lt. William J. Granger and Cpl. Olin C. Granger, Jr., at the Halls' home, 928 Murray street, Hammond.

MM2/c Hall is the husband of Mrs. Ethel Hall, and the son of Mrs. James Springs. He just returned from overseas duty.

Lt. William Granger, Jr., son of Mr. William Granger, Sr., was awarded his pilots wings upon graduating from AAC training at Luke Field, Ariz.

Cpl. Granger is stationed at Camp Crowder, Mo.

**KERMIT CLYNE ENLISTS**

Enlisting in the army air corps, Kermit Clyne, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Clyne, of 936 Merrill street, Hammond, has gone to Jefferson barracks, Mo. He graduated this year from Hammond high school, where he was business manager of the Dunes, annual school publication.



## Hammond Family Blames Neglect in Navy Death of Son at Great Lakes

Declaring they have decided to tell the story of their son and husband's death so that similar tragedies may be avoided, the Hammond parents and widow of Richard A. Ageberg, 31, of 6020 Wallace road, charged today that his death resulted from the "criminal negligence" of examining physicians who permitted his induction into the navy despite his diabetic condition.

These details of Ageberg's death Nov. 2 in the naval hospital at Great Lakes, Ill., previously were withheld by this newspaper at the request of the father, Adler Ageberg. Since then, apparently, the family has decided to reveal the circumstances of the death.

Ageberg, father of a 13-month-old daughter, was ordered to report for induction by his draft board at Plymouth, Ind. His father said a full report of the son's physical condition, telling of the finding of diabetes, was forwarded to the board by his physician, Dr. E. S. Jones. The report stated he needed daily doses of insulin.

James Thomas, chairman of the Plymouth board, has denied that board members knew of Ageberg's illness, declaring there is no record of Dr. Jones' medical report on file.

Ageberg reported for induction in Indianapolis Oct. 21, and, according to his wife, Gayle, 6005 Wallace road, Hammond, told examining physicians he had diabetes. She said her husband told her no urinalysis was taken to check on his statement.

Ageberg's family was notified of his illness on the evening of Nov. 1 and arrived at the naval hospital a few hours later to find him in a coma, the wife said. He died early the next morning. Mrs. Ageberg said the autopsy report showed he died of bronchial pneumonia and diabetes.

Mrs. Ageberg and the dead sailor's parents also blamed his death upon the navy's failure to treat him as a special medical case instead of sending him through the reception routine at the naval station with hundreds of normal inductees.

## BAARS HOME FROM ACROSS

Hammond Times, November 23, 1943

Sgt. Raymond H. Baars arrived home from overseas recently. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Baars, 580 Fayette street, Hammond.

Since he enlisted in February 1940, he has traveled from coast-to-coast, as well as the Panama Canal Zone, Australia, New Caledonia, Guadalcanal and the Fiji islands. Sgt. Baars is a member of the 57th Engineers, Bn. Combat.

He arrived in the states in September and was sent to a malaria clearing station at Modesto, Calif. From there he was sent to Kennedy General hospital, Memphis, Tenn.

Sgt. Baars is now back at the Memphis hospital, hoping to be assigned to active duty.

## LOCAL BOYS GET CLUSTERS

Hammond Times, November 24, 1943

Oak leaf clusters for further heroism were added to the air medal decorations of four fliers of the Calumet region recently for distinguishing themselves in exploits with the 8th air force in the European theater; three from Gary, one from Schererville.

The clusters were awarded to T/Sgt. William L. Utley, 4438 Marshall place; S/Sgt. Walter A. Wisneski, 1464 Cleveland street, all of Gary, and 1st Lt. Richard G. Bohney, 12 Joliet street, Schererville.

## RAY THON SAFE OVERSEAS

Hammond Times, November 25, 1943

Arriving overseas, T/5 Ray Thon, son of Mr. Walter Thon, 4022 Cameron street, Hammond, sent his pop word that he is well and kicking. He is stationed somewhere in England.

Ray was promoted to the T/5 rating a few weeks before sailing. He would like to hear from his friends, who should address him ASN 35579340, 64th Squadron, APO 12490, B.P. E., c/o Postmaster, New York, N. Y.



## MILITARY RITES FOR FRANK SLOBODA



Frank Sloboda

Hammond Times, October 27, 1943

Military funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon for Pfc. Frank Sloboda, 26, of East Chicago, who was killed Friday in an aircraft accident at Fort Benning, Ga.

With Rev. Joseph Kecskemethy officiating, military rites will be conducted by members of Twin City Post No. 266 of the American Legion. Services will be held at 1 o'clock at the Huber chapel, where the body now lies, and at 2 o'clock at the First Hungarian Reformed church. Burial will be in Oak Hill cemetery in Hammond.

Sloboda, who had been in the army air force since Aug. 26, 1942, was a radio man on a bomber. He had been stationed at Fort Benning for about six weeks, having been transferred there from Topeka, Kansas.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sloboda, 4906 McCook avenue, he was graduated from Washington high school in Indiana Harbor.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by two brothers, Steve and Julius, and two sisters, Mrs. Nick Csoma of Hammond and Mrs. Fred Blake of East Chicago.

## RETHEFORD HOME FOR FURLOUGH

Hammond Times, November 16, 1943

Visiting his wife, the former Florence Smith of Sohl avenue, Hammond, and his parents at Salem, Ill., Sgt. James Retheford, is on furlough for two weeks.

Sgt. Retheford has served for three years in the Panama Canal Zone. This is his first furlough since he joined the army four years ago. He will report at the Fort Bliss anti-aircraft division in Texas upon completion of his furlough.

## MILLER SAFE IN INDIA



A. J. Miller

Hammond Times, November 16, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence N. Miller of Wilhelm street, heard from their son, Cpl. Tech. Arthur J. Miller, that he had arrived safely "somewhere in India."

Cpl. Miller attended St. Michael's school here and is a graduate of the high school in Dyer.

He is with the engineers, the corps he first joined when inducted into the army in January.

## GREETINGS FROM STANKE



L. Stanke

Hammond Times, November 16, 1943

"Say hello to the boys at home," writes Leonard S. Stanke, seaman first class in the U. S. navy in a letter received yesterday from San Francisco by the mother, Mrs. Jacob Shurman, 3830 Fern street, East Chicago. Seaman Stanke, 20, and former student at the Washington high school, returned recently from India on a transport ship. He has been in the navy for about 18 months, 14 of them on active duty. He accompanied the American expeditionary forces to Casablanca a year ago and since then has served extensively on transport duty in the South Pacific.



## PARENTS TOLD SON IS DEAD ON BIRTHDAY



Lt. E. Kowalski

Hammond Times, November 18, 1943

Yesterday was the birthday of Lt. Eugene Kowalski, youthful Calumet City pilot of an army P-40 pursuit plane. He would have been 22. Today his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kowalski, 531 Freeland avenue, received a telegram, dated yesterday which said "The secretary of war regrets to inform you that your son, Lt. Eugene Kowalski, was killed in action over Italy Sept. 17. Letter follows."

The telegram closed one of the strangest and oddest stories of World War II. It's arrival was no sudden shock to the Kowalski's or their pretty daughter, Leona.

It, rather, ended five weeks of uncertainty. Five weeks during which every knock on the door and every telephone ring was expected to bring confirmation of his death.

For Oct. 15, the Kowalski's received a letter from a soldier recently returned from the Italian front. In it he expressed condolences over the death of Lt. Kowalski. He described their son's heroic death and told of seeing the body buried.

The letter, obviously written because the writer felt the Kowalski's knew their son's death, was the first notification of the death. The war department and Red Cross were unable to confirm the letter, although, when days passed and still no letters arrived from Lt. Kowalski, his family finally decided he was dead. His last letter was dated Sept. 7.

Lt. Kowalski enlisted in the army air force a few days after passing his 20th birthday and in January of 1943 was commissioned a second lieutenant and awarded his coveted wings. He was graduated from the advanced flying school at Luke field, Arizona.

In April of this year he was sent overseas. He has seen considerable action in both the African and Italian campaigns, his family, by reading between the lines of his letters, realized.

Shortly after he was awarded his wings, Lt. Kowalski narrowly escaped death. While flying over the Gulf of Mexico his plane's motor failed and he was forced to bail out. A coast guard cutter saved him from a watery grave.

A graduate from Thornton Fractional high school in Calumet City, he was employed at the Superheater company in East Chicago prior to entering service.

## LT. HICKO NOW RECOVERING



Lt. E. Hicko

Hammond Times, November 23, 1943

Seriously wounded in action, 2nd Lt. Edward Hicko of Whiting is reported recovering from his injuries at a base hospital somewhere in New Guinea.

Several weeks ago his father, Steve Hicko, 2046 Lake avenue, was notified by Lt. Gen. J. A. Ulio that his son was injured in action in the South Pacific area. On Oct. 21, the commanding officer reported the Whiting lieutenant was "sinking rapidly," but a letter from Lt. Hicko preceded by the war department's notice on Nov. 6 brought the good news of his recovery.

In the army air corps since April, 1941, Lt. Hicko was sent overseas last year in April.



## BROTHERS IN NAVY



L. Augustynowicz

Hammond Times, November 18, 1943

Leo Augustynowicz has been promoted from fireman first-class to PO third-class. He is stationed somewhere in the Pacific. His mother is Mrs. Luck Augustynowicz, 21 — 155th place, Calumet City.



F. Augustynowicz

Seaman first-class Frank Augustynowicz, Leo's older brother, has returned from his 12-day leave and is out to sea again. Frank has been in action for a year and had the experience of watching a Jap ship sunk without loss of a single man on his ship.

## TELLS OF ITALY

Hammond Times, November 23, 1943

Account of two months in Naples, Italy, was received today by the parents of Pvt. Wallace G. Reid, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Smith, of 849 Michigan avenue, Hammond. Pvt. Reid was trained basically at the military police replacement center at Fort Riley, Kans. There he received three medals for expert marksmanship with pistol, rifle and sub-machine gun. He was sent to Africa last June. Aged 19, he entered the service in January.

## OVERSEAS WITH ARMORED UNIT

Hammond Times, November 25, 1943

Although Cpl. Gerald F. Kolb, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Kolb, 30 Detroit street, Hammond, has been in service only 13 months, he already is a veteran of six months with an



Cpl. G. F. Kolb

overseas armored unit serving somewhere in the south Pacific area.

Cpl. Kolb was sent overseas shortly after he completed his training for the armored division at Denver, Colo. A graduate of Catholic Central high school, he writes his parents two letters each week. A brother, Pvt. Robert J. Kolb, now is training in Macon, Ga.

Cpl. Kolb has three other brothers, Jerome, Clarence and Virgil, and a sister, Mrs. James Ikovic of Gary.

## HOME FROM THE WARS



A. Austgen

Hammond Times, November 26, 1943

Arnold Austgen, petty officer 3/c serving as first gunner's mate, was granted a 15-day leave after being in the thick of the west Pacific battle for five months.

PO 3/c Austgen visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Austgen, Griffith, and his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Jaeger, 4833 Elm avenue, Hammond.

He returned to his ship after enjoying his leave.



## MAKES PO 1/c RATING



H. Etheridge

Hammond Times, November 25, 1943

Harold O. Etheridge, assigned to duty with the Pacific fleet for the last two years, has been promoted to first class petty officer in the signal corps.

His advancement has been rapid due to the liking and interest he has shown for his particular branch of the navy.

PO 1/c Etheridge's sleeve now bears the markings of the regular navy eagle shield and three chevrons with the crossed signal flags between, the latter denoting his branch, the signal corps.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Etheridge, 1624 Central avenue, Whiting.

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## ANYBODY GOT A RADIO FOR A LONESOME CORPORAL



Cpl. Bugyis

Hammond Times, November 25, 1943

Serving his country several thousand miles from home a Whiting soldier, Cpl. Michael Bugyis, directed a plea for a standard wave radio set to the Whiting chapter of the American Red Cross. The letter, written on Nov. 6 from a signal construction corps, based

somewhere in North Africa was received today at the Red Cross office.

Cpl. Bugyis, writing on behalf of his tent buddies and himself, says they have been unable to buy a radio and that evenings are long and lonely after letters have been written.

Thinking perhaps someone in the region would be willing to donate a radio to these American soldiers, away from home, the Red Cross requested the letter be printed and indicated the radio could be sent through Red Cross channels if a donor would contact the office, by telephoning Whiting 474 immediately.

Cpl. Bugyis's letter says:

"My tent buddies and I have a little favor to ask of you. Chances are that you may not be able to fulfill this little favor, still all things considered, nothing tried, nothing gained. My buddies and I have tried to buy a small short wave and standard radio here in Africa, but so far our attempts have been in vain. One of the fellows suggested writing to our local Red Cross back home to see if they could help us out and I was elected to write to mine.

"A small radio would be very nice to have in the evenings. There are several French radio stations around here and a couple of American expeditionary stations. The A. E. stations broadcast news flashes, comments on the war, "G.I." jive, etc., solely for the American soldier and his Allies.

"After our letter writing is finished in the evening our chief source of entertainment is spinning yarns. That gets pretty old and stale after a while. A small radio would be just the thing to relax our minds and bodies. There is nothing better, we think, than a bit of music for relaxation and entertainment.

"Anything you can do to help our cause will be greatly appreciated."

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## MASTEY RELAXES AT HOME

Hammond Times, November 24, 1943

Granted a leave, Robert W. Mastey, S1/c, is spending his precious 14 days at the home of his parents 4204 Torrence avenue, Hammond.

Mastey has spent seven months at sea, and after his leave will report to his base at New Orleans, La. He entered the navy a year ago and was attending Hammond Tech at the time.



## FOUR IN SERVICE



**I. Liesenfelt**

Hammond Times, November 25, 1943

Mrs. G. Liesenfelt, 420 Wilson avenue, Calumet City, has three sons and one daughter now serving in Uncle Sam's armed forces. The daughter is an army nurse, 1st Lt. Olive M.



**L. Liesenfelt**



**N. Liesenfelt**

Liesenfelt, who was recently promoted to that rank. She left for overseas service on Jan. 15, 1942, and is now at a base hospital in the southwest Pacific.

S/Sgt. I. J. (Dick) Liesenfelt is with the army air forces, now stationed at Dalhart,



**O. Liesenfelt**

Tex., with the 468th bomber squadron. Dick left for service on Oct. 30, 1942.

N. P. ("Nibbs") Liesenfelt is in the navy with the rating of AOM-3/c, took boot training at Great Lakes, beginning Aug. 17, 1942, and is now on shipboard in the southwest

Pacific where he is hoping he'll chance to see his sister Nurse Olive, some day soon. Nibbs' address is Navy No. 420, care of F.P.O., San Francisco, Calif.

Leo F. Liesenfelt, Sp 3rd class, joined the coast guard Sept. 27, 1942, trained at Pine Lake, Mich., and is now at Ketchikan, Alaska.

## HOME AFTER SEA DUTY



**R. Mastey**

Hammond Times, November 26, 1943

Following seven months at sea, Seaman, first class, Robert W. Mastey, now is spending a 14-day leave with his parents at 4204 Torrence avenue, Hammond.

Sailor Mastey entered the navy about a year ago. Prior to that he had been attending classes in Hammond Technical high school. When his leave is ended, he will return to active duty, reporting at his base in New Orleans, La.

## DEWEY ROBINSON UPPED

Hammond Times, November 25, 1943



**D. Robinson**

News of promotion of Dewey Robinson to seaman first class was received yesterday by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Robinson, of 6722 Parris avenue, Hessville. Seaman Robinson, 19, with the navy seabees, entered the service last March and has been in the southwest Pacific area since August.



## HE SAW PEARL HARBOR



**M. Grimmer**

Hammond Times, November 25, 1943

Sgt. Joseph M. Grimmer gave his family, the William Grimms of Griffith, a pleasant surprise when he recently arrived home on a 15-day furlough.

Sgt. Grimmer came from active duty in the southwest Pacific and the Hawaiian islands. He witnessed the Jap attack on Pearl Harbor, and for the past year has been serving on an unnamed island "somewhere in the southwest Pacific."

This furlough marks the first time the sergeant has seen home, and folks, since his induction 2½ years ago. All but 12 weeks have been spent outside the continental United States. Sgt. Grimmer now goes to Camp Biloxi, Miss., to train for the air corps.

## WAS SECOND, NOW FIRST



**W. Binder**

Hammond Times, November 25, 1943

Promoted from 2nd lieutenant to 1st lieutenant, W. M. Binder, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Binder, 2017 Wespark avenue, Whiting, has completed one year's service as commissioned officer in the air force at Labrador.

Lt. Binder received his first commission, as 2nd lieutenant, at Scott Field, October, 1942.

He was employed by the Milwaukee railroad in the engineering department prior to his entry in the air corps.

## RENS IS A CORPORAL



**Cpl. Rens**

Hammond Times, November 25, 1943

Leonard H. Rens, whose wife resides at 2703 — 163rd place, Hammond, has been promoted to rank of corporal. He is with the railway transport corps in Alaska. Entering service April 15, 1943, he was stationed at Camp Shelby and New Orleans prior to going to Alaska Sept. 12. He formerly was employed by Inland Steel company. He requested Hammond relatives to forward The Hammond Times to him in Alaska and has written home he enjoys keeping in touch with his home town through its columns.

## HAMMOND SOLDIER SHOT IN SICILIAN INVASION



**C. F. Walker**

Hammond Times, November 25, 1943

Pvt. Charles F. Walker, Jr., 23, wounded in the American-British invasion of Sicily, left yesterday for the army general hospital at Cambridge, O., after a visit with his parents at 590 Sibley street, Hammond. Pvt. Walker, a native of Hammond and a graduate of Hammond high school, was granted the brief furlough from the hospital where he had been under treatment for some time.

He was wounded July 13 and was on the first hospital ship coming back to America from Sicily. He was attached to an infantry division.



## HAMMOND TIMES TRAVELS TO TROPICS

—And Do the Hoosier Boys Enjoy It!



Sgt. Kendierski

December 1, 1943

From the Times to the tropics—and right back again! It's not hot off the press, but who wants anything hot down there? So writes Sgt. Edward Kendierski, of 3422 Fir street, East Chicago. The Sergeant, formerly employed by the Inland Steel company, with his buddies, Pvt. Jesse A. Denkins of Fort Wayne and Cpl. Clayton H. Foulds of Shelburn are more or less regular and decidedly enthusiastic recipients of The Hammond Times and—but here is a bit of the letter composed by the trio and just sent up from the Antipodes—antipodes being 'way down under in the Southwest Pacific, and not something you eat, drink or scratch.

"We get the news about a month late, but do we enjoy it! We get into a lot of arguments, too, especially with the guys from the south and west. We're for good old Hoosier state every time. We see by the paper you're having a bond drive up home. Good business. Every bond will help bring us home just that much sooner. We're having one ourselves. The sky's the limit. Sgt. Kendierski, for example, is buying a bond every month. What an example! we're all doing our best to follow it. Keep shooting the Hoosier news to us through The Hammond Times. We'll send it right back to you, as much as we can, if we can and when we can."

## SERVING OVERSEAS



Capt. Jaracz

Hammond Times, November 29, 1943

Now serving overseas in the southwest Pacific area with a army engineer corps medical detachment, Leonard Jaracz has been promoted from first lieutenant to captain, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jaracz, 4948 Baring avenue, East Chicago, have learned. Capt. Jaracz has been in southwest Pacific for 20 months. A dental school graduate of Loyola college, class of '40, Capt. Jaracz left the United States as a private.

## YOUNG RUTKOWSKI IN NAVY



T. Rutkowski

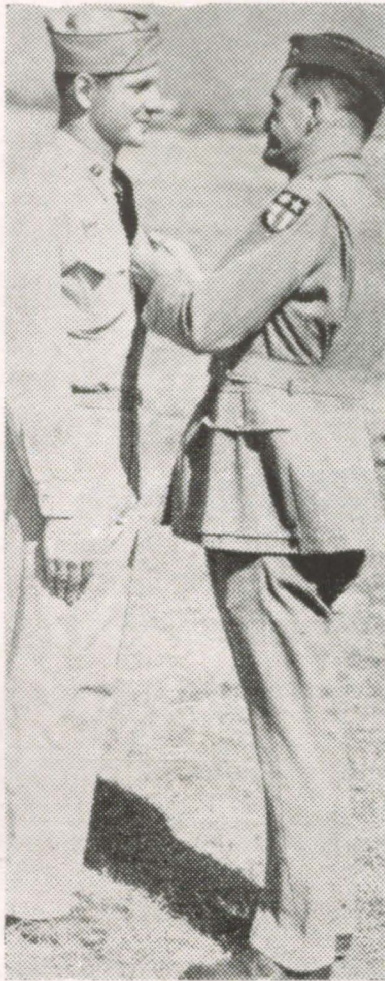
December 1, 1943

"Right in the thick of it," writes 1c/s Ted Rutkowski, 21, to his father, Clem Rutkowski, of 936 Field street, Hammond. In the navy a year and on the south Pacific since last August, Ted formerly was employed by the Pullman-Standard company. His father recently received a picture of Ted from a friend of the latter when both were stationed at National City, Cal. The father has a daughter, Irene, who will celebrate her 13th birthday in a few days. Young Rutkowski says he likes navy life fine and hopes he'll get a whack at the Japs soon.



## A HERO BY HABIT—MAJOR NOWAK IS DECORATED AGAIN

Hammond Times. December 3, 1943



**Maj. Albert Nowak**

Hammond Times. December 3, 1943

Heroism, rare in most folk and a brief flash in the careers of some, seems to be a habit with Maj. Albert C. Nowak, son of Max Nowak, president of the Nowak Milling company, and widely known in the Calumet area.

Maj. Nowak's latest award for exploits with the army air corps, is a second oak leaf cluster to the distinguished flying cross. He was thus decorated in China by Gen Claire Chennault following his participation in more than 150 operational flights. He was one of 19 officers and enlisted men recently awarded for the part they played combatting the Japanese in northern Burma. Maj. Nowak lives at 8128 Essex avenue, Chicago.

## ANTIQUE GUN POOR WEAPON



**Harley Peschke**

Hammond Times. December 3, 1943

A 200-year-old shotgun may not be of much use in killing Nazis or Japs, but Harley A. Peschke, petty officer in the merchant marine service considers it an interesting souvenir of his recent adventures in the Mediterranean. Harley is spending a 30-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Peschke, of 6041 Erie avenue, Hammond. Harley's sole regret is that his brother, who he has not seen for 18 months, is not here for the family reunion. Seaman first class Norman Frank Peschke is on naval duty in the South Pacific.



**Norman Peschke**

Peschke entered the merchant marines shortly after a year's enlistment in the army and was attached to the transport service. His ship survived two submarine attacks in the Mediterranean and the North Atlantic, as well as air assaults off the north African coast. He got the antique shotgun in Sicily, recently demonstrating it to a group of friends entertained at his home.





**M. Richvalsky**

Hammond Times. December 3, 1943

Michael R. Richvalsky has a brand new rating and a promotion to petty officer 2/c while serving in the amphibious forces in the Mediterranean theater. His latest rating is that of master machinist mate 2/c.

PO 2/c Richvalsky is the son of Mrs. Mary Richvalsky, 1246 West Fred street, Whiting. He entered the navy over a year ago, took his "boot" at Great Lakes, and has been overseas since May, 1943.

Addres him: Michael R. Richvalsky, MOM M2/c, U. S. Navy No. 93, LC-T No. 5, Flotilla No. 10, c/o Fleet Post Office, New York, N. Y.

### CPL. MARTIN DECORAED

Hammond Times. December 3, 1943

Good conduct and theater of operations ribbons decorate the chest of Cpl. Robert O. Martin, home for a nine-day furlough at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Orrin R. Martin, of 413 — 159th street, Calumet City. Martin is stationed at amphibious training



**Robert Martin**

center, Camp Gordon Johnston, Fla. He gained his operations medal after a 36-day voyage transporting landing boats from Car-rable, Fla., to Cape Cod, Mass. Cpl Martin is a coxswain in his boat and shore regiment.



**L. D. Barney**

Hammond Times. December 3, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. John Barney of 906 169th place, Hammond, heard from their sons and the boys' uncles lately and the letters read like troop movements. Cpl. Louis Barney wrote to say he was transferred to the south Pacific and an uncle, George Barney, said he was en route to the same area with the railroad engineers. Another son told of being transferred to Norfolk, Va. aboard a ship his uncle, Stephen Barney, saw action. He is GM3/c. William A. Barney, United States coast guard.

A third son, Irwin J. Barney, a marine corps bomber pilot, said he was promoted from a second to a first lieutenant.

### WEARS HREE STRIPES



**B. Zimnawoda**

Hammond Times. December 3, 1943

Entering the army last Feb. 6, Bernard Zimnawoda, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Zimnawoda, of 221 — 143rd place, Calumet City, is wearing his sergeant's stripes overseas. He was sent to Fort Sheridan, Ill., following his enlistment and has served at Kessler field, Miss., Camp Lee, Va., Daniels field, Ga. Avon Park, Fla., and Lakeland, Fla. While serving as cook he recently was promoted from private to sergeant. His wife and son are living with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Janos, 121st street, Whiting.



**J. Wamsher**

December 1, 1943

Sgt. Jack Wamsher has arrived safely at a foreign base, according to letters received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John H. Wamsher, 822 Eaton street, Hammond.

Jack is a 1941 graduate of Hammond high and before enlisting on July 7, 1942, was employed at the Continental plant in East Chicago.

After completing basic training at Camp Wallace, Tex., he was selected for specialized training in radar, and after graduating from the army's advanced radar school as the youngest soldier in the coast artillery to complete this course he went to Camp Stewart, Ga., to train recruits in anti-aircraft.

He was given a short furlough between these two camps in June and visited his parents. Then Jack went to the Westinghouse Baltimore plant for six weeks more of special training. Upon completing that, he was promoted to sergeant and sent overseas.

Sgt. Wamsher's mailing address is Sgt. John W. Wamsher, ASN 15104485, Btry. C. C. A. (AA), APO 856, c/o Postmaster, New York, N. Y.

### UNCLE NEPHEW MEET AGAIN

Hammond Times, November 25, 1943

Pvt. Edward S. Spejewski, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Spejewski of 1522 Hoffman street, Hammond, and his uncle, Cpl. Steve Grelecki, 27, have met in England for the second time, Spejewski wrote his parents. While stationed a distance from each other, they had a few days together.

**E. J. Lundewall**

December 1, 1943

Having departed for overseas duty with Uncle Sam's army, Cpl. Earl J. Lundewall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl H. Lundewall, 1106 170th place, Hammond, has furnished this department with his new address.

Friends can write him: ASN 35092342, 714th Bombardment Group, APO No. 9020, c/o Postmaster, New York, N. Y.

Lundewall was promoted to the rank of corporal a few weeks before shipping over. He is 19 years old.

### WITH ENGINEERS IN ITALY

**D. Van Dyke**

December 1, 1943

A veteran of almost two years, all but three months served overseas, Cpl. Dale Van Dyke, son of Mrs. Dorothy Van Dyke, 21 Condit street, Hammond, is now with the engineers in Italy.

Dale joined the army in April, 1942 and has been kept too busy for a furlough ever since. His duties have taken him to Scotland, Ireland, Sicily and on two trips to north Africa.

He graduated from Hammond high school, worked in the office at Sinclair refinery, and took his basic army training at Camp Robinson, Ark. He has two sisters and three brothers.



## RETURNS TO ACTIVE SERVICE



T. Langer

Hammond Times, December 5, 1943

Seaman Theodore P. Langer, fireman, second class, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Langer, 4825 Elm avenue, in Hammond, now has returned to active duty aboard his ship after spending a 13-day leave with his parents.

Seaman Langer, who has been in service since Jan., 1942, now can be reached by mail addressed to him at USS U.S.T. 131, in care of the fleet postmaster, New York City, N. Y. Before entering service, Langer attended Hammond Tech high school. He trained at Farragut, Ia., Ames University, O., and Norfolk, Va.

## WINS AIR MEDAL FOR SERVICE OVER ENEMY OCCUPIED EUROPE



J. H. Culp

Hammond Times, January 5, 1944

Lt. Harold F. Culp, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Culp, R.R. No. 1, Cedar Lake, has won the air medal "for meritorious service in aerial flight over enemy occupied continental Eu-

rope," according to a dispatch from the European theater of operations, an AAF fighter stationed somewhere in England, cleared by military censor.

Lt. Culp won his wings in February and was sent over to give fighter support to our big bombers. He does his stuff from the cockpit of a squat eight-gunned fighter which he has christened "Lonesome Polecat."

## HAROLD ZIMMER DIES OF WOUNDS

Hammond Times, November 30, 1943

Word was received here today that Ensign Harold "Red" Zimmer, former coach in all sports at George Rogers Clark high school, Hammond, and onetime football star at Indiana university, died Thanksgiving day as a result of accidental gunshot wounds sustained while on duty with the Atlantic fleet.

How he suffered the wounds aboard a United States destroyer was not revealed.

News of Ensign Zimmer's death was telegraphed by his widow, Mrs. Lois Zimmer, who now lives in Indianapolis, to R. B. Miller, principal of Clark. Zimmer served as assistant coach at the local school during the fall of 1941 and the spring of 1942, when he resigned.

Zimmer, who was extremely popular with both Clark students and faculty members, is the first of more than a score of former Calumet area athletic coaches now in the armed forces to be killed in action.

While attending Indiana university, Zimmer excelled as football halfback and as a scholar to such an extent that he was awarded the Big Ten conference medal given annually to the athlete who best combines his athletic prowess and scholarship. Small for the halfback position he played on Indiana's varsity grid squad, Zimmer distinguished himself by a "jackrabbit" type of field running. He graduated from the university in the spring of 1941, coming to Hammond a few months later.

He was employed by an Indianapolis war industry until early this year when he entered naval training at Northwestern university. He had been on active duty for a month.



Hammond Times, November 26, 1943



Clarence J. Porte

The Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Certificate of Commendation are the proud possessions of Staff Sgt. Clarence J. Porte, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Porte, of 1853 Ridge road, Munster. The commendation award came after Porte, serving last spring in Tunisia, supervised and directed the flow of supplies of his organization over rough terrain, frequently under enemy fire. The medal with its purple ribbon was given for conspicuous gallantry in Sicily where Porte rescued a buddy in battle at great personal risk, being slightly wounded by an exploding bomb. He also wears a good conduct stripe.

Porte, 23, a graduate of Hammond Technical high school, enlisted in the army Nov. 23, 1940, and spent 32 months at Fort Bragg, N. C., where he was promoted from private to staff sergeant. He went overseas with Company H, 39th infantry. He has two brothers in the service—Pfc. Jacob in California and Pfc. Anthony in Texas.

### GETS "OVER THERE" SAFELY

Hammond Times, November 29, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. John Fornear, 4740 Baltimore avenue, Hammond, have received word of the safe arrival overseas of their son, John L. Fornear, Jr.

He is somewhere in the southwest Pacific. John Jr., is a graduate of Hammond Tech.

News came to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Miller, 116 — 157th street, Calumet City, from their son, Fred, informing them that he has received a S/Sgt. rating at his station somewhere in the southwest Pacific.

S/Sgt. Miller has served 14 months overseas, and received a good conduct medal after two and a half years service. His new APO number is 27, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif. Fred wants his friends to keep up the good work and write.

### SAFE OVERSEAS

Hammond Times, December 2, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Albert F. Baranowski, 5619 Walter avenue, Hammond, have received word that their son, Pvt. Albert Baranowski, Jr., has arrived safely overseas and is stationed somewhere in England.

Pvt. Baranowski was a former pupil of Catholic Central high school and took an active part on the football and basketball teams.

He left for the army last Dec. 26, and is with the signal corps of the army airforce. "Al," as he is known to all of his friends, would appreciate it very much if all of his friends would write to him, as mail is an important part in the life of a soldier.

His address is:

Pvt. Albert F. Baranowski, Jr., A.S.N. 355-75005, Co. "A" 926 Sig. Bn. A.S.C., A.P.O. 638, c/o Postmaster, New York, N. Y.

### DYER PILOT MISSING IN ACTION

Hammond Times, November 28, 1943

Mrs. Ridgeway Poole has been notified by the war department that her husband, a chief aviation pilot stationed in England, has been reported missing in action. Mrs. Poole, formerly Florence Schroeder, is living here with her sister, Mrs. Ralph Stevens, whose husband also is in service.



## VFW AUXILLIARY ENDS DRIVE

Hammond Times, December 6, 1943

Mrs. Lawrence Buckle, president, urges all members of the Ladies' auxiliary, Post 802, Edward H. Larsen, to be present at the regular meeting of the organization tonight at 8 o'clock.

A report will be given on a membership drive in which the local women competed with the Ladies' auxiliary of the VFW of LaPorte, Ind. Last week, the Hammond group took in 23 new members, the largest number accepted at one time in the history of the organization.

The new members are: Lillian Berry, Georgia Besham, Sophia Paulson, Bernice Gimmer, Mary Hanas, Mildred Meissner, Margaret Ulbrich, Victoria Hanas, Mary Kolsut, Scholastico Kolsut, Ann Wilson, Betty Fulk, Lola Gangloff, Sylvia Bell, Katherine Warren, Azalia Cokenour, Gertrude Orphey, Winifred Horvath, Helena Kirkeiner, Susan Flagel, Mildred Novak, Daisy Orr and Magdalene Fredericks.

Final results of the membership drive were announced at the district meeting held by the Veterans of Foreign Wars at LaPorte yesterday.

### Sugar Handy Receives News Son is Recovering

Hammond Times, December 5, 1943

James "Sugar" Handy, well-known Calumet region bowler, got word yesterday his boy, Francis, is going to get well. Pvt. Francis C. Handy, on Guadalcanal with the engineers for the last 10 months, was severely wounded in November and the war department reported his condition critical. The message of reassurance was received by his parents, of 3503 Deodar street, Indiana Harbor.

Francis is 31. His wife, Hannah, is living with his parents. Handy, Sr. is a well-known recreation hall operator.

## MOELLERS RECEIVE WORD FROM 3 SONS

Hammond Times, December 3, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Aloys Moeller were considerably heartened today when they heard from two of their three sons in service. They are anxiously awaiting news of the other son, who now is serving overseas.

After receiving a card from Pvt. Raymond Moeller saying he had arrived safely back in this country after serving overseas, the Moellers talked with him long distance at the army hospital at Memphis, Tenn., where he is being treated for a skin disease contracted in Australia.

They also received a letter from Tech. Sgt. Francis Moeller informing them he has been transferred from Iceland to England but they have failed to hear for more than a month from Staff Sgt. Albert Moeller, who has been overseas two years. A younger son, Leroy, recently was called but rejected for army service, while a fifth son, Aloy, of Chicago, now is awaiting orders to report for induction.

### HAMMOND SOLDIER OVERSEAS

Hammond Times, December 2, 1943

Word was received today by Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Hess, 1127 Drackert street, Hammond, that their son, Cpl. Donald Hess, assigned to the army air corps, has arrived safely at his post overseas.

### MEET IN ATLANTIC

Hammond Times, December 2, 1943

Two sailors and one soldier have met in the Atlantic while on duty somewhere in that ocean. All three are Calumet region boys who enjoyed shooting the scuttlebutt about old times, mainly prep football in the local conference.

The trio consists of S/Sgt. Stanley Beldzowski, Second Signal Det., whose home address is 4937 Baring avenue, East Chicago; SF2/c Matthew Kots, 4217 Henry street, Hammond, and Bruno J. Rogala, S 1/c, 4918 Walsh avenue, East Chicago.



## Casualty Lists Name Calumet Region Soldiers

Hammond Times, December 3, 1943

The war department made public today the names of four men from the Calumet region that were included in casualty lists from the fighting fronts.

Pvt. Stephen E. Mores, whose mother is Mrs. Mary Mores, 2030 Davis avenue, Whiting, and Sgt. Frank H. Zielinski, whose sister is Mrs. Marie Strazweski, 1550 Hayes street, Gary, were killed in the Mediterranean area.

Two Gary men, First Lt. Kenneth H. Matson, whose father is Harry E. Matson, 768 Buchanan street, and Second Lt. Steve Scouris, whose father is Pete E. Scouris, 1301 West Fifth avenue, were listed as prisoners of war and held by Germany.

In the list of soldiers killed in action, 224 men were named. The list of prisoners contained the names of 469 soldiers.

### Sgt. R. G. Nelson Killed in Action



R. G. Nelson

Hammond Times, June 3, 1943

Sgt. Russell G. Nelson of Whiting, who has served overseas since December, 1942 was reported killed in action on the North African front, according to word received yesterday by his wife from the war department in Washington.

Sgt. Nelson was inducted into the army on Jan. 14, 1941, at which time he lived at 616 Truman street, Hammond. He has been stationed at Ft. Bliss, Texas, Camp Young, Indio, Calif., and Camp A. P. Hill, Va., before he

was shipped out. He is a graduate of Bowen high school in Chicago and prior to induction was employed at the Republic Steel company. His wife, the former Mary Dehenes, lives at 2132 Superior avenue.

This Whiting serviceman, who gave the supreme sacrifice for his country, is survived by five sisters and two brothers of Minneapolis, and Crookston, Minn., and Ludlow, Ill.; also one brother, Gerhardt, 8015 Muskegon avenue, Chicago.

### PROMOTED WHILE ACROSS

Hammond Times, December 8, 1943

Eighth Army Air Force Fighter Station, England. — James R. Lammering, 864 State Line avenue, Calumet City, has been promoted from the grade of sergeant to that of staff sergeant, Jim is a mechanic for a Thunderbolt fighter plane squad.

S/Sgt. Lammering entered service in May, 1942, and, before that was night superintendent at a Calumet City brass works.

### WELLS ADVANCED TO Y 1-C

Hammond Times, December 8, 1943

Mrs. Anna Perry, 6238 Van Buren avenue, Hammond, received news of her son's promotion to Yeoman 1/c recently. He is David Wells, assigned to submarine duty.

His wife, the former Helen Kirkeiner, has been with him for the past several months. She has been serving as typist at the shipyard where her husband is stationed.

Mrs. Wells will return to Hammond as soon as her husband is again ordered to overseas duty. Y 1/c Wells has already over two years overseas combat activity to his credit.

Both Yeoman and Mrs. David Wells are Hammond high school graduates and members of this city's early settler families.



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# *Hungarian Group Presents Ambulance*

Hammond Times, June 2, 1943

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Rev. Joseph Kecskemethy (left) is shown presenting the keys of an ambulance donated to the army by Americans of Hungarian Extraction, churches and lodges of East Chicago to Lt. Col. E. W. Dennis of Fort Hayes, O. Others in the picture are (left to right) Rev.

Sigmund Balla, Rev. Joseph Sipos, Melvin Spector and Sgt. O. R. Curry (in ambulance), of the fifth service command motor pool. The group also presented the American Red Cross with a \$500 check, which was received by Spector.

## **NEWS OF THE TERRE BOYS**

Hammond Times, December 8, 1943

Jim and Joe, sons of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Terre, 646 Ingraham avenue, Calumet City, had things happen to them recently.

Somewhere in England, Jim Terre was promoted to staff sergeant. He has been there al-

most two years and has met four or five lads from Calumet City.

Pfc. Joe Terre spent a 10-day furlough home recently and has returned to his station at Camp Gordon Johnston, Fla.



## BROTHERS MEET AFTER TWO YEARS

Hammond Times, December 8, 1943

After 22 months serving Uncle Sam at opposite ends of the earth, two brothers were reunited during coincidental furloughs recently.

They are Pvt. Sylvester Zemen of the army, serving in the North African theater, and Pvt. Zemen of the marine air corps, who served at Guadalcanal and the New Hebrides islands in the Pacific.

Pvt. Sylvester's furlough ended Dec. 2 and he has returned to the General hospital, Tuscaloosa, Ala., but Pvt. Joe is sticking around East Chicago until Dec. 22, when he'll report for further duty at Santa Ana, Calif.

Both boys are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Kalman Zemen, 3806 Deal street, East Chicago.

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## HAMMOND VET BACK IN U. S. A.

Hammond Times, December 9, 1943

Veteran of 40 combat missions, Tech. Sgt. Walter L. Wright, son of Mrs. Clara Wright, 6514 Beal avenue, Hammond, has returned to the United States after 11 months' service in the North African, Sicilian and Italian theatres of war.

He has been assigned to the army air forces redistribution station at Atlantic City, N. J., where he will be examined and interviewed to determine where his lengthy training and combat experience can be utilized to the greatest advantage by the army air forces.

Sgt. Wright wears the air medal with nine oak leaf clusters and is credited with shooting down one Messerschmitt 109. He enlisted Oct. 20, 1940, and is a graduate of the gunnery school at Scott field.

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## TRANSFERRED TO AUSTRALIA

Hammond Times, December 7, 1943

Cpl. Milton Rusina, son of Peter Rusina, 1737 Stanton avenue, Whiting, has been transferred to a new base in Australia, after having spent 10 months on New Guinea, ac-

cording to word received here this week by his father.

Co-incidentally with the transfer, Milton was promoted from private, first class, to his present rank. He has been in service two years and has three sisters, Mrs. Mildred Seigel, Ann and Mrs. Val Stock, all of whom live in Whiting.

Cpl. Rusina's present mailing address is to the 6th troop carrier squadron, APO 922, in care of the postmaster at San Francisco, Calif.

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## HARBIN BOYS OVERSEAS

Hammond Times, December 10, 1943

This past week-end brought to Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Harbin, Sr., 446 E. State street, the overseas addresses of their two sons, S/Sgt. Fred E. Harbin, Jr., of the army air forces, and Pfc. Jay A. Harbin of the USMC.

On Friday they received word from Jay that he had safely reached his destination "Somewhere in the South Pacific." Jay was sent overseas after seven weeks "boot training" at San Diego, Calif.

A graduate of Edison Jr. and Hammond high schools, Jay was a member of the track and basketball teams at Edison, and also participated in track and cross country at Hammond high. Jay was also an "ANZAC" member. Jay's address is Pfc. Jay A. Harbin, USMC, 30th Pepl. B. N., c/o Fleet Postoffice, San Francisco, Calif.

Nineteen-year-old Fred, who has not been home since enlisting ten months ago sent his APO address on Saturday. Fred was recently promoted to staff sergeant and is a tail gunner on a B-24. Also a graduate of Edison Jr. high and a student at Hammond high. Fred chose football at Edison, and dropped out of Hammond high to enter the service.

Friends can write Fred as follows: S/Sgt. Fred E. Harbin, Jr., 35583089, 734 Bomb Sqd., 453 Bomb Grp., APO 9166, c/o Postmaster, New York, N. Y.



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## Jeepers! Hammond Jeeps See Double TWIN BECOME LIEUTENANTS

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Hammond Times, July 18, 1943



Twin brothers, Tom and Jim Daily, 12-year-old sons of Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Daily, 6622 Madison avenue, Hammond, are the first members of the junior emergency employe personnel service to gain the rank of lieutenant. Tom (in front) and Jim demonstrate how they compiled a portion of the 100 hours of work needed to become a lieutenant by pushing lawnmowers. Any boy or girl 12, 13, 14 or 15 living in Hammond or Calumet City is eligible to join the JEEPS, sponsored by the Hammond junior chamber of commerce. A prize list totaling \$325 in U. S. war bonds,

plus special bonuses to be announced later, is offered. A JEEP is pledged to aid the war effort by performing odd jobs such as mowing lawns, tilling gardens, cleaning basements, caring for babies, running errands and sweeping floors. A registration booth is located in front of Hammond's courthouse in the downtown section. Lts. Tom and Jim Daily were the 30th and 31st youngsters to enroll in the JEEPS. The contest closes Sept. 4, so there's still plenty of time to join. Prizes are offered in four divisions: Boys, 12 and 13; boys, 14 and 16; girls, 12 and 13; girls, 14 and 15.



## **Lt. C. E. Linkewicz of Calumet City Misses Death on Tarawa**

Hammond Times, December 12, 1943

A Calumet City marine veteran of Guadalcanal and the Gilbert island campaign—who missed death by an inch on Tarawa when a Jap bullet ploughed through his left cheek just below his eye—returned to Pearl Harbor this week to relate a stirring story of the ferocity of the battle in the south Pacific.

He is Second Lt. Casimir E. Linkewicz, 26, whose widowed mother, Pauline, lives at 666 Hirsch street, Calumet City. Linkewicz's account of the battle for Tarawa was recounted in a war correspondent's dispatch from Hawaii yesterday. In the story, Lt. Linkewicz was reported as anxious to get back into the battle to settle scores with the Japs.

The Calumet City marine, who led a rifle platoon onto the tiny atoll on the Gilbert islands, went into action the second day of the battle. Carrying extra drinking water and ammunition, his group dug in for the night at the Jap's right flank, which was brightly lighted by American bombs which started fires.

Linkewicz told the correspondent he became angered when his men suddenly began firing on the Japs in disobedience of orders but that his platoon couldn't resist the temptation of Japs silhouetted against the flames.

"They stopped when I ordered them to, however, and used their bayonets instead," Linkewicz said. "Just before daybreak a Jap plane came over and killed some of our boys with bombs.

"Later in the day I took a platoon to the west end of the beach in a vain search for reported snipers. On the way back I was hit. Luckily the stretcher-bearers had a stretcher ahead of the line. While they were carrying me—and beefing about my 180 pounds—Jap riflemen opened up, so they had to drag me by the leg. They had a hell of a time getting me out. Of the six who carried me out, all but two were killed later."

Linkewicz ran a tavern in Calumet City following the death of his father, Joseph, but five years ago took a job in a steel mill. He joined the marines nearly four years ago. He also served 14 months in Iceland and on Guadalcanal. A brother, Stanley, 24, is a naval ensign.

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## **PAIR RETURNS FROM SEAS**

Hammond Times, December 13, 1943

Two local USNR seamen, 1/c, have returned from sea duty for a brief spell, it was announced by the 8th Naval District, New Orleans.

They are: Walter J. Biedron, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Biedron, 12314 Avenue L, Hegewisch, and Robert W. Mastey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mastey, 4204 Torrence avenue, Hammond.

Seaman 1/c Biedron visited ports in north Africa, Canada, England, South America, Sicily, and the Italian mainland. During his eight months at sea, Bierdon, serving as armed guardsman on a merchant vessel, shared many adventures with the crew.

He reported that while in the Bay of Biscay his ship was attacked by Nazi bombers. His vessel was undamaged and delivered its vital cargo safely.

Bierdon worked at Inland Steel, Indiana Harbor, before joining the navy, May, 1942.

Seaman 1/c Mastey, 19, was also a member of the naval gun crew guarding another merchant ship. His trip took six and a half months, during which his vessel visited ports in South America, south Africa and the Persian gulf.

Mastey attended Hammond Tech, and was employed as checker at Taylor Chain company for six months before entering service.



Hammond Times, December 12, 1943

Latest war department reports list a Gary soldier as killed in action in the European theater of war and a Hammond youth as a prisoner of the Germans.

Listed as dead is Cpl. Chester Majchrzak, son of Mrs. John Majchrzak of Gary. His name was included among 164 American soldiers reported killed in the Asiatic, Mediterranean, European, middle eastern, Pacific, Philippine islands and southwest Pacific war zones.

Said to be among 327 soldiers held prisoners by the Nazis is Staff Sgt. William J. Luttringer, son of Mrs. Clara M. Luttringer of Hammond.

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#### **PVT. SNYDER GETS TIMES**

Hammond Times, December 8, 1943

If Pvt. Leroy Snyder, stationed with the army in Iran, missed any gossip about the meeting of President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin in that country, he can get the story in The Hammond Times. Mrs. C. B. Scott, 524 Chicago street, Hammond, Snyder's mother, said she received a letter from the soldier that stated one of his biggest thrills is getting the paper delivered regularly to him in Iran.

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#### **BUDDIES MEET IN NEW GUINEA**

Hammond Times, December 15, 1943

George E. Slocum, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Slocum of Highland, has written an interesting letter to his parents. George is an aviation radioman third class on an airplane carrier and has traveled to many fighting fronts, but his biggest thrill came recently when he ran head-long into the arms of his bosom friend, Bob Thilmont. Many Highland people were fortunate enough to hear George speak over the radio hour last Sunday from New Guinea where he and Bob had met.

Hammond Times, December 16, 1943

The cup of happiness overflowed in the Sam M. Postlewaite family, 30 Midway court, today when a mailman brought them a long longed-for letter from their son, Pfc. Sam Postlewaite, Jr., from the bloody Tarawa sector of the Gilbert islands, stating he was safe.

Concern for the safety of their son has been felt by the father, advertising manager of The Hammond Times and the boy's mother ever since press accounts told of the assault on Tarawa and the heavy casualty list the marines suffered in the landing and the death toll in wrestling the jungle stronghold from the Japs.

Young Postlewaite's letter stated that he was safe, the "island was secure, but we might be here for some time."

"Tarawa is a typical tropical island just as you always see in the movies," the young marine wrote.

The youth took part in the heavy Tarawa offensive and the landing amidst a barrage of Jap machine gun fire, artillery shells and snipers' bullets.

Sam indicated in his letter written Nov. 26th that he could not write again for some time and wished his folks a "Merry Christmas!"

"The letter of our boy's safety is the best Christmas gift we ever got," the parents asserted today.

Incidentally, the Postlewaites have another son, Ernie, who is based at San Antonio, Tex.

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#### **JOINS NATIVE UNIT**

Hammond Times, December 15, 1943

A Hammond marine is one of the non-commissioned officers attached to the only native unit in the U. S. Marine Corps. He is Staff Sgt. Joseph Trybulec, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Trybulec, 4620 Ash avenue, Hammond. Trybulec has been in the marines since 1941, has spent two years in the south Pacific and has been attached to this unit as non-commissioned officer in charge of the outfit's quartermaster depot since last May.



# Northern Indiana Has \$13,000,000 'Mirage' City



Rows on rows of empty houses mark Kingsford Heights, Indiana's "mirage city" 10 miles from LaPorte, where the government has spent \$13,000,000 to erect a "model" town of 2,974 family units, only 216 of which are occupied. Above, just back of euphoniously-named Ferwood avenue, the deserted atmosphere is shown with back yards lacking any semblance of domestic life and with carefully planted grass going untended. Below the only

store in the town, occupying a temporary building. With a chain drug store which has engaged quarters in the elaborate business section now being built, it will occupy a building in the center of the town when the structure is completed. Other store buildings are being erected, but there are no tenants available and business men of nearby towns predict the stores will never be occupied.



## ORDINANCE PLANT HOUSING SCHEME CALLED FAILURE

Hammond Times, July 23, 1943

Kingsford Heights is dubbed "the mirage of Indiana" in surrounding LaPorte county towns.

Unlike a mirage on the desert it exists -- \$13,000,000 worth of it -- but it is truly a "mirage" of governmental planning to regiment some 2,974 families of Kingsbury ordinance plant workers into barracks like, though modern, dwellings in a "model town" erected on what formerly was rich farming land.

Only 216 families reside in its sprawling 2,974 homes. Its cement sidewalks are untrodden, its elaborate waterworks system operates at one-tenth its capacity—and Kingsford Heights, other LaPorte towns say, has no silver-lined future in prospect behind the dark clouds of its present existence amid rumblings against governmental waste of the public's money and resources.

Ghost towns of the west, where men were men and died with their boots on, supposedly are haunted by the spirits of those departed, either violently or when the mineral lodes on which the towns were founded played out.

### *No Ghosts or People Here*

Kingsford Heights, government-conceived "model town," adjacent to the Kingsbury ordinance plant, near LaPorte, under this interpretation, cannot be classed a "ghost town." For it couldn't be haunted by those who once resided there. Even when the 216 families leave, as they probably will after the ordinance plant's war work is ended, there would be only a few "ghosts" to haunt the quarters prepared for more than 10,000 humans.

The best designation of Kingsford Heights is a "mirage" rather than a "ghost town." The "mirage" conceived by the government is populated mostly by field mice, which travel unafraid over the grass grown streets and backyards.

Uncle Sam, however, has not written Kingsford Heights off to experience to date. Perhaps it's because government red tape is such that, once a project is started, nothing

but its completion can check the expenditure of tax money, or perhaps, as A. J. Parkin, the government manager of the project contends. Uncle Sam still believes it is possible to fill the town with humans.

### *Construction Continues*

At any rate construction work continues in the town. Several hundred high-paid craftsmen, carpenters, masons, electricians, roofers, sheet metal men, sewer construction crews, sidewalk paving crews, etc., work on amid the deep silence of 2,758 unoccupied, albeit completed homes, watched at intervals by the 216 families who have moved into the town. Incidentally, there are no figures to show how many of the 216 families are those of construction workers who will move on when the town's construction is completed.

In the 2,758 unoccupied homes 2,758 modern type gas stoves stand idle, 2,758 sinks are unused, 2,758 units of plumbing are tied up, plus 2,758 times the many household fittings that are so scarce on civilian markets today.

Thousands of miles of electric wiring in the unused streets nightly carry current for the street lights. A complete waterworks system designed to care for 2,974 families serves the 216 units occupied. Miles of concrete sidewalks go nowhere for there is no one to walk over them on many of the streets.

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## GARY SAILOR GETS MEDAL FOR HEROISM

Hammond Times, December 16, 1943

John V. Swigon of Gary was awarded the Silver Star medal in North Africa for heroism when his ship, the cruiser Savannah, was struck by an enemy bomb Nov. 9 while protecting the Fifth army's landings in the Gulf of Salerno, it was learned today. Ninety-nine medals and commendations were awarded to crewmen of the ship.

The bomb entered the turret and exploded below decks. Numerous acts of heroism were performed by men trapped within the ship and those who helped rescue them.



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## *Hammond's Larsen Post VFW, Guards Against Apple Carts for War Veterans*

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Hammond Times, December 16, 1943

*"We are getting old but we are still in the fight,*

*"To see our boys and girls get justice and are treated right.*

*"Our maimed, wounded and crippled will be issued a purple heart,*

*"It's up to us to see they are not issued an apple cart!"*

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Thus William Krokoski, chaplain of the Edward H. Larsen Post No. 802, Veterans of Foreign Wars, expresses poetically the sentiments of the post in efforts to issue a "square deal" for veterans of World War II.

Obligations of the old veterans were pointed out today by John W. Blume, of Hammond, service officer of the post. These duties, he declared rest upon the veterans now as well as when the war is over.

The first problem to be faced. Blume stressed, is that of reemployment of the returning men and women. Next comes the rehabilitation of the incapacitated veteran, followed by emergency relief for the needy.

For many years, Blume said yesterday in re-the post members to serve with the civilian-army council and to cooperate with all agencies working for the welfare of the former service folk.

For many years, Blue said yesterday in recalling the history of the organization, the Larsen post has been active in working for veterans' benefit.

The post's history goes back to the day of its beginning on July 15, 1921, when a group of veterans met in the Hammond superior court building and elected Herman E. Granger as their temporary commander. Those serving with Commander Granger pending reception of charter and election of permanent officers were: Senior vice commander, G. M. Van Valkenburg; adjutant, Earl K. Cone; quartermaster, Walter E. Meyn; Chaplain, Harry C. Miller; officer of the day, David M. Dillon; bugler, Henry Olsen; trustee, Charles W. George, Charles A. Van Valkenburg and Glen E. Carey; color bearers, Eric Lund and Harry Beatty.

On Sept. 20, 1921, the first permanent officers were elected under the command of Sherm G. Stoll. The group was named for Edward H. Larsen, the first soldier killed in World War I. Since that time the post has elected 24 commanders, now being headed by Werner P. Meissner.

In the 22 years of its existance the post has paid for the home it now occupies at 536 Sibley street. In the present war the post has 57 members serving in Australia, 18 in Italy, six in Iceland, six in the merchant marine, one in South America, five in the Caribbean sea and 17 in the south Pacific area.

Maj. Gen. Glenn R. Clark is a post member and one of the organizers of Camp Pendleton in California. He is now serving in the Pacific. The post also is proud of the record of Jimmie Dugan, a veteran of World War I, a former post commander and now with the army in Australia. Despite the war, Jimmie still is active in post work, recently taking in 36 new members, all serving with him in Australia. He was a member of the degree ritual team in Hammond.



Hammond Times, December 16, 1943

Pfc. Walter P. Cichon is darned good and sore. It seems the folks back in Hammond don't write to him and his buddies in Italy.

"I know it's tough on you guys fighting the war back in the U. S. A." writes Cichon, formerly of 1331 Field street, Hammond, to his friend Ben Diamond of the Hammond Fruit company, in a letter fairly burning up with irony.

"It's hard," he continues. "All you have is a nice warm home, clean clothes, a place to sleep and wash, electric lights, a car and amusements. We're sorry for you! Ourselves, we're taking it easy over here. We only live in little pup tents. It only rains every day. There is mud all around and we don't know what a bath or clean clothes look like. We sleep on the ground. We are near the front and hear the big guns all the time. Still, we have time to write and you haven't. People are letting us down. I'm not speaking for myself alone but for all of us."

Thus Walter releases his pentup ire.

"God bless you all," he concludes.

### BRINGS WAR SOUVENIRS

Hammond Times, December 16, 1943

Edw. "Ted" Hansen's story of his recent trip with the merchant marines reads like an adventure story. He has recently returned from a trip to Africa and Italy during which time he was an oiler in the engine room of a liberty ship carrying a cargo of TNT and hi-test gasoline. They were bombed twice by the Germans in the Mediterranean sea and two ships in the convoy were sunk with all hands lost. Ted brought two souvenirs home—a German commando knife and an Italian bayonet taken from prisoners. On the return trip 500 prisoners (German) were brought back. Some talked English and Ted discovered that they were sure New York and Chicago had been practically wiped out by bombings and that Germany would win this war.

— Editorial —

Hammond Times, August 2, 1943

"Boondoggling on a Global Basis" is the title of an article by Henry J. Taylor, in "The Reader's Digest" for August, that every thinking American should read.

Taylor, whose "Men in Motion," is one of the most important books on the war, says that "our policy of exaggerated internationalism is as dangerous, foolhardy and destructive as narrow isolationism." We quote from his timely article:

"As for our devious plans for a Better World Order — whatever that may mean besides the impoverishment of the United States itself — our fatuous assumption that we can set all well with words and dollars and a 'police force' is a thoughtlessly impossible undertaking.

"Here at home we are faced by every sort of readjustment after the war. We must provide jobs for the returning American soldiers and for our present war workers. We must work tirelessly to regain our solvency and to recover from the present huge drain on every resource we have. In this alone we face the greatest task in our history. We shall be in no position to lift the standard of living in China, in Russia, among 400 million impoverished peoples of Europe, desirable as it is. There is no possibility of our succeeding in such an attempt."

The writer strikes out at "America's International WPA." He says the government's policies abroad are undermining the morale of our troops. "This is not the time," he comments, "to pay an American workman \$1,000 a month to fix electric wires on the airfield at Accra, while privates in the United States army, working on the same field, are paid \$50 a month." He tells how American boondogglers in Labrador paid the Eskimos such high wages — \$120 a week for a family accustomed to earn \$8 and \$10 — that they didn't know what to do with the money and quit work on the U. S. army air base.

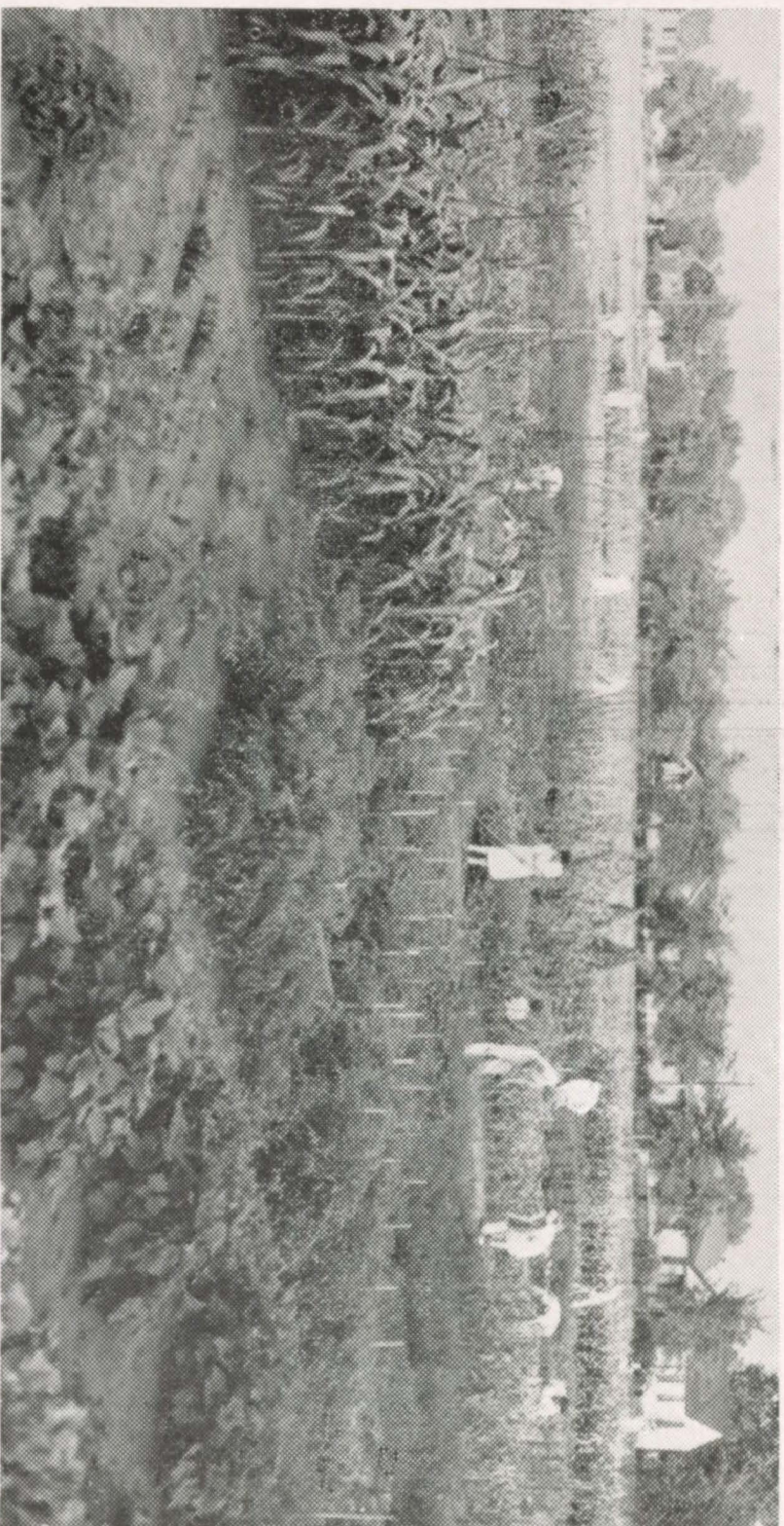
What will happen when the American boondogglers leave these foreign countries?

If you haven't read the article by all means get a copy of the magazine and do so. It should be a "must" on your reading list.



# *Food, Good Everywhere! It's Ready to Eat Now or Soon*

Hammond Times, July 22, 1943



The 50 families gardening in the old Edison school plot, located between Jackson and Madison avenues and Mulberry and Spruce streets, Hammond, are positive that small victory garden pays big dividends. Mrs. B. F. Mills, 537 Mulberry street, reports that thus far the victory gardeners have taken green

beans, radishes, spinach, onions, mustard greens, turnips, beets, cabbage and peas from their gardens. In a rough survey, she adds, 25 different types of vegetables were counted in the block-long plot. Kohlrabi, rutabagas, cauliflower, Lima beans, collards, egg plant, salsify and black zucchini were found in addi-

tion to more common garden vegetables. The victory gardens, pictured above, were sponsored by The Hammond Times and laid out by the Hammond Garden club. Each plot is 25 by 50 feet, with a 2 foot path between each plot.



## Gritton Wounded in Action . . . . .

Hammond Times, December 16, 1943

Mrs. Clarence Cloe, 5618 Howard avenue, Hammond, has been advised that her brother, Pfc. Joseph E. Gritton, was seriously wounded in action, Nov. 12, on the Italian front.

Pfc. Gritton made his home with his sister before entering service. He was employed at the O. F. Jordan company in East Chicago.

While living here, Pfc. Gritton made many friends. The extent or nature of his injuries were not made known.

## HORSE MEAT ON SALE HERE

Hammond Times, July 13, 1943

The adage, "The old gray mare ain't what she used to be," has never been truer than it is today, for Old Dobbin's heritage as a beast of burden is rapidly becoming a thing of the past. Today he's considered by many as one of the dinner table's finer delicacies.

No longer do prospective purchasers pry open Dobbin's mouth to determine his age by looking at his teeth. Today's buyers study cuts from his hind quarters, his chest and his forelegs in an effort to judge how good their dinner will be.

Convincing proof of this wartime transformation in the Calumet area is to be found in figures compiled by Sam Savage, owner of the Mountain Range Horse Meat market, 5423 Calumet avenue, Hammond, dealers in horse meat exclusively.

Savage says he has sold "more than 10 tons of horse meat" during the two weeks his market has been operating in this area, and he adds that the daily consumption is rising steadily. Between 140 and 150 persons jam his store every day to buy cuts of meat for table use only.

Sirloin and round steaks and horse-meat burger lead the field in popularity among those buy horse meat, Savage says. His customers are not limited to residents of Hammond alone, but include many from surrounding towns.

Pardoxically, the market's advertisement of horse meat for dogs and cats received little attention from anyone in the area, Savage dis-

closed. Apparently most of the buyers think the left-over bones are enough for their household pets . . . after they've finished eating the horse-meat chuck roasts, steaks and hamburger.

And if anyone asks how so many people got around to trying horse meat for the first time, Savage also has the answer for that.

"Some of our first customers helped in advertising the meat," he said. "They bought steaks or roasts for their own use and then invited neighbors over to dine. The neighbors ate horse meat without fore-knowledge and liked it so well they began patronizing Savage's market themselves."

## MAJ. WEAVER MUM ON WAR EXPERIENCES AS A MARINE

Hammond Times, May 28, 1943

Home on his first leave in two years from the south Pacific battle front, a real hot spot in the war theater, is Maj. Wilfred Weaver, deeply tanned by the tropic sun, wearing the leather-neck's "brush" cut and keeping a tight lip about his inevitable experiences.

It was clearly evidenced by his "closed lip" policy that the major is an A-1 marine, having learned and learned well "to obey orders," for he drew forth his official orders and called attention to paragraph 2: "Press representatives seeking information should be referred to the nearest naval headquarters."

The major informs that it is winter now in that area and "darn hot." It rains frequently during summer months and the results are a hot, steamy and most uncomfortable climate.

Maj. Weaver has been in the marine corps reserve for 14 years. He was called to active duty in October, 1941, and has been stationed for 17 months in the south Pacific. In civilian life he was employed at the Northern Indiana Public Service company in Hammond.

The major and his wife and four children, Betty, Wilfred, Jr., Lois and Marilyn, have lived at 18046 Ridgewood avenue, Lansing for 10 years.

He must report back to San Diego, Calif., on June 27.

Maj. Weaver also indicated that he had met several Calumet region boys who are fighting over there.



## IN MEMORIAM TO FLIER



R. K. Bowers

Hammond Times, December 6, 1943

His soul goes marching on—

When the Japs killed Ensign Robert Keith Bowers at Pearl Harbor two years ago, there was no destroyer escort vessel Bowers. And there was no Bowers airport at Ellensburg, Wash. The recent launching of the ship at San Francisco was the latest honor paid the memory of the young naval officer, well known in the Calumet area. While he never made his home here, Ensign Bowers spent his vacations here at the home of his aunt, Mrs. H. J. Van Valkenburg, 37 Lawndale street, Hammond, while studying medicine at the University of Washington, Seattle.

He abandoned his medical career to join the naval air forces and was graduated at Pensacola, Fla. He was pilot of an observation plane on the U.S.S. California when killed at Pearl Harbor. His mother, Mrs. Alva I. Bowers, sister of Mrs. Van Valkenburg, christened the ship launched to commemorate his sacrifice.

## MORRISON SEES ECONOMIC RULE

Chicago Tribune, October 4, 1943

Herbert S. Morrison, British home secretary, said today that rationing restrictions and other war time economic controls would have to be continued in Great Britain when peace comes "for as long as abnormal conditions persist." Premature lifting of such restrictions and controls after 1918, he asserted, contributed largely to the financial depression.

In a speech here the British minister pre-

dicted a great clamor to abandon government controls would arise as soon as the war ended, and added that unless wiser judgment prevailed "the folks with the money will get there first."

Morrison suggested control of spending "by taxes and public self-restraint through voluntary savings"; continuance of rationing both in industry and in the shops so long as shortages exist, and continuance of public control of some industries.

## LT. W. J. GRANGER IS KILLED



Lt. Granger

Hammond Times, December 12, 1943

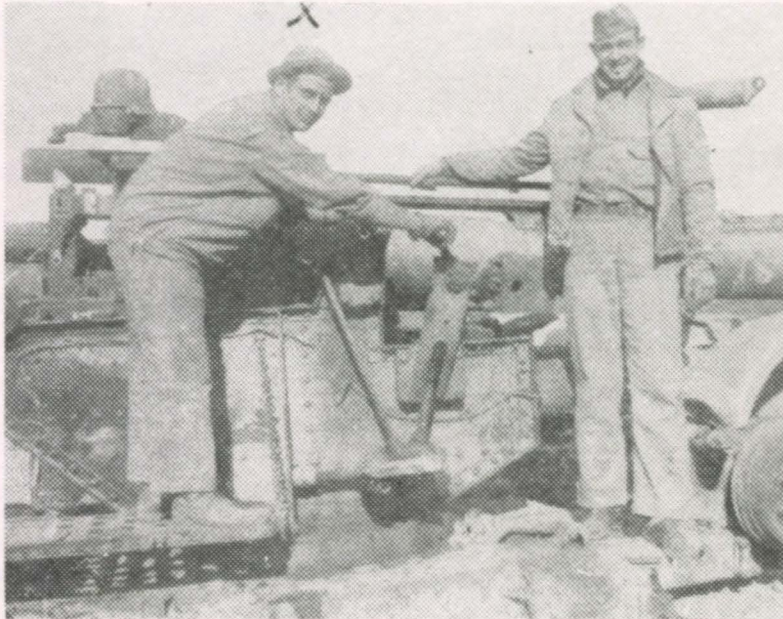
Second Lt. William J. Granger, Jr., 19, former Hammond high school athlete, was killed Friday when his army fighter plane crashed while landing at Hamilton Field, Cal. His father, William J. Granger, of 953 Murray street, Hammond, was informed of his death by army officers.

Granger graduated last year from Hammond high school, where he had been a member of the school wrestling team. Following employment by the Continental Roll and Steel Foundry company he enlisted in December, 1942, trained at Santa Ana and Tulare Fields, Cal., and got his wings at Lute Field, Arizona, Nov. 3, last. Given a furlough, he visited his father Nov. 7 to 10 at the Hammond home.

The young officer was an only child. His body will be sent here for burial. Funeral arrangements have not been completed.



## Look Over German Gun



Hammond Times, June 3, 1943

Walter Chicon, a former truck driver for the Hamond fruit company, sends word to his friends here that he is somewhere in north Africa and the above photograph which he

explains as being a German 88 MM. gun captured by his outfit in the battle of Tunisia. Chicon says that is a German helmet resting on the gun. Chicon, identified by the X mark, also reports he was in on the capture of Sfax.

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### RAY J. NOVAK DIES IN ACTION

Hammond Times, December 9, 1943

Raymond John Novak, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anton C. Novak, 4515 Ash avenue, died in the sinking of the U. S. aircraft carrier *Lipscomb Bay* in the American invasion of the Gilbert islands, his parents were informed today by the navy department.

Several other Hammond men were aboard the *Lipscomb Bay*, it is known, but their fate is as yet unannounced.

Novak was an ordnanceman, first class, and enlisted in the navy Jan. 24, 1941. He was trained at Great Lakes naval training station and Seattle, Wash. In Seattle he was married to a Seattle girl.

He was a Hammond high school graduate and was employed by the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company prior to entering service.

Besides his parents, he is survived by his widow, Bertha, who took up residence at San Diego, his home port, to be with him when his ship was in home waters, and a brother, Cpl. Anthony C. Novak, Tinker Field, Oklahoma City, Okla.

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### Pvt. Elbert Howe of Hobart Listed Dead in England

Hammond Times, December 6, 1943

Death of her brother, Pvt. Elber E. Howe in Newbury, England, was reported yesterday to Mrs. Ovia Watson by the war department. Pvt. Howe, a native of Medaryville, Ind., had been in England for the past three months as a member of the 101st artillery band. He had been in the army two years. His father, George Howe, was a former Hobart resident. No details of Pvt. Howe's death were given.



## HAMMOND FLIER OVERDUE ON FLIGHT

Hammond Times, December 12, 1943

Searching parties Saturday were seeking a B-24 bomber, piloted by Second Lt. Roy H. Brasher, who was reported overdue at an airfield in Texas, according to his father, Claude Brasher, 224 Brunswick street, Hammond, who received word from the Texas field. The plane was due Friday. Brasher said his son was in Hamond Thursday and left that evening. Lt. Brasher, stationed at Maxwell Field, Ala., has been in the army air forces for one year.

## SECOND TO FIRST LOOEY



R. M. Black

Hammond Times, December 14, 1943

Lt. Robert M. M. Black has been promoted to first lieutenant while on duty somewhere on the fighting fronts. A comparatively short time after this promotion was announced, Lieut. Black rounded out one year of service in north Africa, having come in on the initial invasion on Nov. 8, 1942. The news of Lt. Black's promotion comes from Maj. Edwin Waters, public relations officer of Black's air squadron.

The new first lieutenant's parents are Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Black, 1608 — 142nd street, East Chicago.

## SGT. PORACKY TO BE HONORED

Hammond Times, January 2, 1944

Returned home after 300 flying hours in combat, wearing the distinguished flying cross, the air medal, the presidential citation, and other awards for outstanding service and valor, Tech. Sgt. Walter Poracky of Whiting will be guest of honor today at the communion breakfast of the Second district of the National Council of Catholic Men.

In service overseas for 23 months, Tech. Sgt. Poracky has participated in 42 day and night bombing raids in the South Pacific war zone. He was graduated from George Rogers



W. Poracky

Clark high school and before his enlistment was employed at the Carbide and Carbon corporation.

The breakfast will be held in the banquet room of the St. John church of Whiting immediately following the 9:15 a. m. mass at which the Holy Name society of Whiting will receive Holy Communion. Communion will be offered, on this occasion, for the protection and welfare of American men in the armed forces.

The movie, "War in the Pacific" recently released under the supervision of Admiral Downes, will be shown after the breakfast.

Tech. Sgt. Poracky, who arrived home in time to spend the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Poracky, 1727 Stanton avenue, Whiting, expects to leave soon for an army hospital in Florida for a rest cure.

## STATIONED SOMEWHERE IN IRELAND



J. Majcherek

Hammond Times, December 14, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. John Majcherek, 244 — 156th street, Calumet City, have heard that their son, John J., stationed somewhere in Ireland, has been advanced from private first class to



sergeant.

He had been in the army only 6½ months when he received the promotion.

Sgt. Majcherek graduated from Thornton Fractional high school and from a business college in Chicago. Before leaving to take up his military duties, he worked for the Superheater corporation in East Chicago, performing office work.

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### **Crown Pointer Not Missing: Just Substitute Loses Infantry; Aides Artillery**



**G. Zajicek**

Hammond Times, December 14, 1943

Although his training best fitted him for the job as runner with an army infantry unit, Pfc. George Zajicek, Jr., found he also was quite adept at firing anti-aircraft artillery when he was accidentally separated from his unit in Italy recently and joined up with the anti-aircraft unit.

This was disclosed in a letter received yesterday by his wife, Mrs. Edith Zajicek, 306 East Joliet street, who had feared he was a casualty of war following an official war department dispatch listing him as missing in action. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Zajicek, Sr., of Crown Point.

His letter told Mrs. Zajicek that he was accidentally separated from his infantry unit in Italy during fierce fighting and that he later found himself with anti-aircraft artillerymen and was put to work firing one of the guns for two days during a heavy bombardment. He later rejoined his own company and has since been listed as "found" by the war department.

Zajicek also disclosed he was wounded during the fighting in Italy and has received the Purple Heart decoration — becoming the first Crown Pointer known to have received this honor in this war.

He was inducted in February, 1943, and received his basic training at Camp Wheeler, Ga. His first overseas duty was in North Africa and he subsequently was shipped to Italy, where he now is fighting. Before entering service, he worked as a gauge marker at the Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing company plant, Hammond, where his wife now is employed as a clerk.

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### **Sgt. Hulsey Home on Furlough Will Wed Miss Haley**



**John Hulsey**

Hammond Times, December 16, 1943

Sgt. John B. Hulsey, Jr., is going to make the most of his 12-day furlough from Fort Bliss, Tex. The first few days he will spend with his parents and friends and at 7 p. m. Sunday in St. Paul's Lutheran church he will marry Miss Dorothy Haley, 423 Detroit street, Hammond.

Sgt. Hulsey, son of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Hulsey, Sr., 4745 Elm avenue, Hammond, expressed regret that his brother, Cpl. George E., stationed in the Pacific area, will not be home for the ceremony. The Hulsey soldier sons are both in anti-aircraft divisions.

Sgt. Hulsey has been in the army for the past 15 months and was promoted to his present rank last November. He said he expects to be sent to another post after his furlough period is over.



## HOME ONLY TWO DAYS ON FURLOUGH.



Ed Michniewicz

Hammond Times, December 15, 1943

If you blinked your eyes you might not have seen Ed Michniewicz because his leave at home lasted only two days.

Michniewicz is GM 3/c of the armed guard unit, the son of Mrs. William Wojciechoski, 1105 — 5th avenue, Roby. Formerly, he worked at the Amaizo plant.

The gunners mate just returned from active duty overseas. He served on merchant ships as part of the naval guard. Ed touched ports in the Middle East and north Africa.

He has two brothers, Stanley and Walter Michniewicz, latter the former football captain at Hammond Clark high school.

## SGT. RUBASKY OVER THERE



J. Rubasky

Hammond Times, December 19, 1943

Mrs. John P. Rubasky has heard from her husband, Sgt. J. P. Rubasky, upon his safe arrival somewhere in the South Pacific.

Sgt. Rubasky's wife, the former Marg B. Tirpak, lives at 1924 Front street in Whiting, and works at Standard Oil company where

her husband was employed before his induction.

March 19, 1943, was the date of Sgt. Rubasky's entrance in the army. He received his basic training at Fort Bragg, N. C.

Sgt. Rubasky is attached to the Quartermasters Corps, which sees that our army gets what it needs in food, clothing and other supplies.

## FIND WRECK OF BRASHER PLANE



R. H. Brasher

Hammond Times, December 19, 1943

Army authorities notified the parents of 2nd Lt. Roy H. Brasher that the wreckage of his bomber missing since Dec. 10, has been sighted between Albuquerque, N. M., and El Paso, Tex., near Mt. Taylor and it would probably be reached by ground forces some time today.

The lieutenant and a crew had started on a cross-country trip from Maxwell Field, Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 9, to Lovefield, Dallas, Tex., and then to Big Springs, Tex. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Brasher, 224 Brunswick street, Hammond, had last seen their son Dec. 5, when he arrived for a brief visit.

## CPL PASZOTTA IS KILLED IN ITALY

Hammond Times, December 19, 1943

Cpl. Herbert M. Paszotta, 39, attached to a volunteer bomb disposal squad, was killed in Italy as a result of a "vehicle accident," it was learned today. His death occurred last Nov. 11, the war department reported to Mrs.



J. D. Johnston, 51 Webb street, Hammond, with whom the soldier had roomed.



**Cpl. Paszotta**

Before entering the army 15 months ago, Paszotta was the Northern Indiana representative of the International Business Machines company. He was well known among Hammond business men. He graduated from the University of Illinois and held a bachelor of science degree.

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#### **HUNT HOISTED TO P.O.**



**C. V. Hunt**

Hammond Times, December 12, 1943

According to word received by his wife, Charles V. Hunt, an aviation machinist expert serving overseas, has been promoted to petty officer 2/c.

Hunt is the husband of Mrs. Dorothy Hunt, 572 Fayette street, Hammond.

Before shipping over P/O Hunt graduated from aviation machinist school at the naval base in Memphis, Tenn.

Before his enlistment in the navy, he was employed at Lever Brothers. Hunt joined the service in November, 1942. His address is C. A. S. U. No. 9, c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, Calif.

#### **MEADOWS HOME AT LAST**



**J. Meadows**

Hammond Times, December 19, 1943

For the first time in nearly two and one-half years, Tech. 5th Grade James D. Meadows is at home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest W. Meadows, 6240 California avenue, Hammond. The soldier had been in the Caribbean area with the medical corps during that time. Meadows enlisted Dec. 28, 1940, and wears two decorations. He is now assigned to Fort Sheridan, Ill.

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#### **MAYER HOME FOR 25 DAYS**



**Sgt. J. Mayer**

Hammond Times, December 20, 1943

Sgt. Joseph Mayer, after serving in Africa, came home recently to spend a well-earned 25-day furlough with his family.

He is the husband of Mrs. Helen Mayer, 4730 Indianapolis boulevard, East Chicago, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mayer, 1250 — 150th street, Hammond.

Sgt. Mayer served in the African theater with the medical corps for a full year. He received a good conduct ribbon for his exemplary service in aiding the army doctors in that active area.

Hammond high school is his alma mater. He worked as salesman before joining up three years ago.



## *Hammond Man in Sea-Air Battle*

Hammond Times, December 19, 1943



Kept secret for five months by navy orders, it became known only this week that a former Hammond man was in command of the navy blimp, K-74, when that lighter-than air craft staged a spectacular running battle with a surfaced Nazi submarine off the east coast in the Atlantic ocean in July.

He is Lt. S/G Nelson Grills, 31-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Garner R. Grills, 14411 South Wentworth avenue, in the Ivanhoe section of Riverdale. The Grills lived in Hammond for 18 years prior to 1938, when they moved to the Illinois city. Lt Grills and his wife and new-born son, Walter Regan, now are stationed in Coral Beach, Fla.

It was in July of this year that the blimp, under Lt. Grills' command, sighted a Nazi

sub surfacing an unannounced distance from the Atlantic coastline while the blimp was on coast patrol. A ferocious sea-air battle ensued — the blimp hovering over the sub and dropping depth charges and the German U-boat crew shelling the flying ship.

Several of the U-boat's shells struck the blimp, forcing it into a crash landing. Only one of the men aboard was lost, however, the rest gaining shore. Whether or not the depth charges materially damaged the submarine was not announced.

In true navy style, Lt. Grills refused to discuss the battle with one of his two sisters, Miss Ruth Grills, who was visiting with him at the time. He confined his comments on the blimp-sub encounter to exactly what the navy



department permitted newspapers to print, Miss Grills said, and would not elaborate further.

Lt. Grills attained a measure of fame once before while he was attending New York's Columbia university, where he received a doctor's degree in law, when he and his wife were pictured as a typical American family in a national magazine article titled, "How Americans Live." He entered the service two years ago after having passed his bar examination.

He is a graduate of Hammond high school, as are both his sisters, Ruth, who works for Marshall Field and company, and Miss Mary Grills, who serves with the American Red Cross. Their father was employed at the Twin City yards of the Indiana Harbor Belt railroad as foreman of the car shop repair crew while he lived in Hammond and, since moving to Riverdale, holds the same position in the Blue Island yards of that railway company. While in Hammond he was active with several lodges and civic groups.

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## CALUMET CITY MARINE JUST HOME



Wm. Korupinski

Hammond Times, December 20, 1943

Trifles like gunshot wounds in the shoulder and shrapnel in the leg are — well, they're just trifles to Pfc. William J. "Bill" Korupinski. He's homesick. And that's important.

So writes Bill, former Thornton Fractional

high school athlete, to his sister, Mrs. Frank Rose, of 556 Douglas avenue, Calumet City. Bill enlisted in the U. S. marines 'way back in 1940 and was sent to Iceland long before the war started. He got a brief furlough in February, 1942, but since then has been on duty in the southwest Pacific.

And such duty! Guadalcanal, Tarawa — these names tell but little of Bill's exciting war experiences. And Bill isn't one to brag. He was one of the first marines to land on the Solomon islands, with the invasion of Aug. 1, 1942. He fought at Guadalcanal and Tulagi and was sent to New Zealand to recuperate from a touch of malaria. Here he was billeted with "some of the swellest people you could want to know."

Sent back to service, he was wounded in the fighting at Tarawa, although his sister didn't hear about it at the time. Her letter received yesterday states he is in a naval hospital in Hawaii recovering from his injuries.

"I'm sleeping in a clean bed with a real pillow and white sheets, and the food is good," he writes exultantly from the hospital. "But it gets monotonous in time and you will please me by sending me lots of mail. My wounds are nothing at all, and there is no cause for anxiety."

Bill, who is 23, lived in Chicago before he came to live with his sister, Mrs. Rose, in Calumet City. He has another sister, Mrs. Stanley Fotos, and a brother Leonard, in Calumet City. Bill was quite an athlete at Thornton Fractional, being awarded a medal for wrestling before graduating in 1940.

About that mail Bill wants. His address is: Pfc. William J. Korupinski, U. S. N. Hosp. Navy No. 10, Ward A-1. C/o Fleet post office, San Francisco, Calif.

Mrs. Rose has received a lot of pictures from New Zealand, including some of the hospital folk who were so good to Bill. The photos and a big pile of Bill's graphic war letters are filling a good-sized scrapbook.



## ELMORE BACK ON DECK



J. B. Elmore

Hammond Times, December 21, 1943

QM 3/c Jack B. Elmore has returned to his ship after spending a 5-day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. Elmore, 4917 Ash avenue, Hammond, and with his fiancée, Miss Lucille Conners, 4747 Ash avenue.

Jack received his petty officer rating after completing his second convoy duty to north Africa. He has been serving in the navy for nine months.

Great Lakes was the scene of his preliminary "boot" training, after which he went on active duty on the high seas.

## CHAPLAIN ARRIVES IN ENGLAND



R. Prohl

Hammond Times, December 21, 1943

Chaplain Russell Prohl, native Hammond minister who has been serving with the army for the past two years, has arrived safely in England and now is stationed with a medical battalion, his wife, Elra, living with their three children at Lake Dale Carlia, was advised this week.

Chaplain Prohl, who holds a commission as a first lieutenant, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Prohl, 4304 Hohman avenue, Hammond. He received his theological training at Fort Wayne and at Springfield, Ill., and shortly afterwards received a post as pastor of the Redeemer Lutheran church at Cleveland, O. He was sent to England four weeks ago.

Chaplain Prohl's present address is 0-443-947, 53rd medical battalion, APO 305, in care of the postmaster at New York City, N. Y.

## SISTER TAKES UP THE TORCH



T. Fleming

Hammond Times, December 21, 1943

Two years ago, when Seaman 2/c David Fleming, of Hammond, lost his life in the Jap bombing of Pearl Harbor, his 18-year-old sister, Thelma, made a solemn vow to help avenge her brother's death some day somehow.

A few months later the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps was organized. Thelma was three years too young to join, but she patiently bided her time.

Then the WAAC dropped an "A" and on Sept. 1 became a component of the army. The enlistment age was lowered from 21 to 20.

Thelma visited the WAC recruiting office recently and now it's Pvt. Thelma Fleming.

"I'm in here to do my best for Davie," she says.

Pvt. Fleming is taking basic training at first WAC training center, Fort Des Moines, Ia., with the All-states group of WAC's from Indiana.

Prior to her enlistment she worked at a war plant in Hammond. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Fleming, 708 Cherry street, Hammond.



# War Mothers Send Lap-Robes to Wounded Vets

Hammond Times, December 21, 1943



Highland members of Mothers of World War II are shown with lap robes they have made for wounded veterans now confined to the veterans' hospital at Marion, Ind. Material for the robes was furnished by patriotically-inclined residents of Highland and converted into the attractive robes by the war mothers, who will continue their project as long as they receive necessary materials with which to

work. Pictured looking over their handwork are: Mrs. R. E. Bovard, unit chairman, whose son is in the army; Mrs. Berry Sporman, mother of Sgt. Leonard Sporman, 25, who was killed in north Africa, and Pfc. Frank Sporman, who now is in Camp Forrest, Tenn.; Mrs. Noble North, who also has a son in the army, and Mrs. Ray McCullough, whose son is serving in England.

## KEER ADVANCED IN NAVY



M. Keer

Hammond Times, December 21, 1943

Promoted a short while ago to coxswain

2/c, Murdock Keer has been serving an overseas duty for some time.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Keer, Burr street.

Before entering upon his naval career, the new coxswain was employed at Inland Steel corporation in East Chicago.

Keer graduated from Washington high school, Indiana Harbor, in the class of '41.

After taking his boot training at Great Lakes naval training station, Ill., Coxswain Keer was transferred to Norfolk, Va., from where he was shipped on active duty on the ocean.



## BOTH BACK SAFE



P. Abatie, Jr.

J. R. Abatie

Hammond Times, January 5, 1944

No better Christmas gift could Mr. and Mrs. Paul Abatie, Sr., have received than to learn their two boys had returned to the states safely. Santa Claus left such a message at their home, 1127 Indiana street, Hammond, informing them that Paul, Jr., EM2/c, was spending Christmas with his wife, Josephine, in Boston, where she is employed as crane operator in the shipyard. In fact, Paul phoned his folks long distance and sent flowers on Christmas day.

John Robert Abatie, S1/c, too, was heard from, phoning from San Francisco, saying he expects a leave by New Year's day. Both are 2-year vets in the navy, Paul having served in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters and John out in the Pacific. They have won stars for action.

## IN LAND OF TEA AND MUTTON



C. L. Frazer

Hammond Times, January 5, 1944

Cpl. Carl L. Frazer has landed safely in England according to recent word received by his wife, Mrs. Betty Frazer.

Cpl. Frazer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Matt Frazer, 6431 Euclid avenue, Hammond.

He says he wants all his friends to write him. They may do so by addressing Cpl. Frazer, ASN, 35583148, 872nd Cml., Co., APO 634, c/o Postmaster, New York, N. Y.

## HAMMONDITE NABS 9 NAZIS Pfc. Fehlberg Uses Ruse to Trap Squadron of Germany's Super-Men



Pfc. Fehlberg

Hammond Times, January 5, 1944

Single-handedly and despite painful shrapnel wounds in his hip, Pfc. Guenther Albert Fehlberg, 23-year-old Hammond soldier serving with the American infantry in Italy, captured nine of Germany's supermen by using a ruse.

Yet he doesn't believe he's as good a soldier as was his dad in World War I—because he's been twice wounded.

This belief was expressed in a V-mail letter received yesterday by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Fehlberg, 818 Morris street, Hammond, shortly after they had received their second telegram in three months from the war department notifying them their son had been wounded in action.

Pfc. Fehlberg, who is stationed with Company C of the 143rd infantry in Italy, first was wounded on Sept. 13 and the last time on Dec. 11, both times by shrapnel, indicating he is in the areas of heaviest fighting. The telegrams disclosed he has been awarded the Purple Heart decoration with oak leaf palm.

Although he's been in service only slightly more than one year, Pfc. Fehlberg apparently has mastered many useful tricks to work upon the enemy. His V-mail letter told his parents he captured the nine Germans after calling to them in German, making them believe he was a fellow-soldier.

"But, Dad," he wrote, "I guess I'm just not as good a soldier as you are, getting all these wounds."

Educated at Hammond high school and an accountant at the Junior Toy corporation before entering service, Pfc. Fehlberg has a proud brother, Walter, and sister, Irmgard, living with his parents.



# *A Bouncing Family, These Decs! 2 Wounded They Snap Right Back*

Hammond Times, January 4, 1944



Mrs. Dec



Vince Dec



Walter Dec



Tony Dec



Chester Dec

A Jap sniper picked Chester Dec in the left arm as he scrambled ashore on the Gilbert Islands two months ago.

But Chester is one of the fighting Decs, of 222 Hanover street, Hammond, and the breed is hard to put out of circulation.

Today Chester, 19, a second class seaman in the U. S. Navy is back home on furlough, wearing the Order of the Purple Heart. He's going back to service January 2.

And he is only one of the four sons of Mrs. Julia Dec helping to hand the Axis an outside headache.

The Nips had a go at Pvt. Vincent Dec, 21, a year ago last August at the Battle of Midway Island. Vincent, of the U. S. Marines, was

wounded, but now is recovering in a hospital at Oakland, Calif.

The enemy has still to hear from a couple of other Decs. Sgt. Walter Dec, 25, is stationed in Los Angeles, while Sgt. Anthony L. Dec, 23, is in training at Camp Barkley, Abilene, Texas.

Short and snappy was the first chapter of Chester's naval career. Eight months ago he was a civilian in Hammond. Then he went overseas on a transport ship and was among the first of the American amphibian troops to land on the Gilberts.

But wait — there's still a fifth Dec coming up. Young Frank, who lives in Hegewisch, expects to be called soon to the armed forces.

## **DIDN'T GET A CHRISTMAS PRESENT**



J. Kovesci

Hammond Times, January 5, 1944

Everyone is sad that Staff Sgt. Joseph Kovesci, attached to an aviation ordnance supply unit, did not get his Christmas present in Italy. In a letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Moses Kovesci of Griffith, he said he wanted to be in Rome Christmas day. Recently promoted Kovesci has been in the army for almost two years and overseas 14 months. He also saw action in Tunisia, and Sicily. He was employed as a millwright at Inland Steel.



## PLAN SERVICE FOR RALPH DAHLKAMP



Ralph Dahlkamp

Hammond Times, January 4, 1944

With funeral plans incomplete, relatives of Sgt. Ralph E. Dahlkamp of Hammond, killed Wednesday when two army bombers crashed near Great Salt Lake, Utah, today awaited arrival of the soldier's body from Wendover field.

Official confirmation of Dahlkamp's death was received by his father, Henry C. Dahlkamp, of 518 Highland street. The body will reach Hammond Saturday night or Sunday morning and rites will be held Monday or Tuesday from St. Joseph's church, Hammond, Msgr. Francis Jansen officiating.

Dahlkamp, 21, was one of 25 killed when the two four-engined bombers collided. He was a graduate of St. Joseph's parochial school and had been in service a year. He had been employed by the United Boiler, Heating and Foundry company.

## THREE BROTHERS SERVE



Hammond Times, December 29, 1943

Rus. McHenry

Mr. and Mrs. Ray McHenry, 7426 Van Buren avenue, Hammond, and their three

daughters, are justly proud of the McHenry contribution to winning the war—and rightly so, with their three sons and brothers in service.

Russell McHenry, 25, entered service with the army on Oct. 15, 1941, and now is stationed in Alaska. He recently wrote his parents he is seriously considering homesteading in Alaska after the war.



Bill McHenry

Brother Bill, 26, a corporal stationed at Camp Haan, Calif., has been in service since January, 1942. Before entering service he was employed by the Kraft Cheese company of Green Bay, Wis.

S 1/c Edward, 17, recently embarked from New York for an unknown destination. He is a navy gunner on a merchant marine ship,



Ed McHenry

having trained at the armed guard school at Norfolk, Va. Edward has been in service since last April.

Their three sisters are Mrs. Marie Bresacker of Hessville; Mrs. Margaret Gould of Hammond and Mrs. Florence Dawson of Chicago.



### THREE SITNICK SONS IN SERVICE



Alex

Hammond Times, December 29, 1943

Still another Hammond family is making a three-way contribution to America's effort—with sons of the Steve Sitnicks, 7011 Kennedy avenue, now serving in as many branches of the armed forces.

First of their boys to enter service is Cpl. Steve Sitnick, 28, who has been serving 23 months overseas with the 27th general hospital unit.

Next in line for his country was Sgt. Major Alex Sitnick, 25, who has been serving a year and who now is training as an aviation cadet at Maxwell Field, Ala.



Steve

And the Sitnicks' last contribution was in Victor Sitnick, 31, who now is an electrician's mate, first class, in the navy seabees, having been in service five months.

Victor, who is serving with the 144th battalion of seabees at Camp Endicott, Rhode

Island, recently returned to camp after spending nine days visiting with his wife and child at 7009 Kennedy avenue.



Victor

### HAMMOND SOLDIER DIES FROM INJURY



William Foster

Hammond Times, December 29, 1943

A soldier since 1936, Master Sgt. William Henry Foster died in an Algiers hospital Nov. 26 of injuries received while aboard a ship off Bougie, Tunisia, the war department informed his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Foster, Sr., 4327 Hickory street, Hammond, yesterday.

The 27-year-old hero's wife, Laura, and young son, John Henry, 2, live in Tulsa, Okla. Sgt. Foster would have been 28 tomorrow. He was in a command unit.

No details of the accident were included in the war department's telegram although the parents were told a letter explaining how their son met his death will follow.

A graduate of Thornton Fractional high school in Calumet City, class of '36, he has been overseas since Oct. 5 of this year. He re-



enlisted in 1939 and was sent to an aeronautics school at Tulsa, Okla., where he met his future wife, whom he married January 4, 1940, at Orlando, Fla. He taught as an army air force crew chief until Sept. 5, 1943, when he entered commando training.

Other survivors include three sisters, Betty and Ada Foster, and Mrs. Leonard E. Norton, all of Hammond; three brothers, Pfc. Wallace J., stationed with a U. S. army unit in England; Robert, Hammond, and John, recently honorably discharged from the army, the maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Calahan, Calumet City.

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#### **CPL. RIGG IN ENGLAND**



**Arthur Rigg**

Hammond Times, December 29, 1943

The face looked familiar, but the size did not. When Mr. and Mrs. Arless Rigg, 825 Bauer street, Hammond, received a picture of their son, Arthur D., recently made a corporal technician 5th grade, stationed in England, his face was the same except for more of it. A letter explained that army life has agreed with him to the extent of gaining 28 pounds. It was their happiest Christmas gift.

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#### **HAMMOND PARENTS HEAR HOW THEIR SON DIED**

##### **Returned Vet Says Sgt. Schroeder Killed**

Hammond Times, January 3, 1944

Hammond parents of an army tank corps sergeant learned indirectly last night of his probable death in the Tunisian campaign when his tank was attacked and burned while

trying to negotiate a treacherous pass in north Africa.

Thought to be dead—although official confirmation has not yet been forwarded by the war department—is Sgt. John Schroeder, 25, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schroeder, 4638 Johnson street. Sgt. Schroeder had been reported as missing since Feb. 15.



**Sgt. J. Schroeder**

The Schroeders and their daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Siegel, who lives with them, learned of Sgt. Schroeder's probable death when another tank corps man who served alongside him returned to his home in Chicago on a medical furlough.

Asking his name not be released by the family, the returned veteran declared he saw Sgt. Schroeder die after his tank was attacked by enemy anti-tank units in north Africa. The soldier said Schroeder was so badly wounded he died almost immediately.

As proof of his assertions, the soldier displayed a photograph of Sgt. Schroeder, a picture of his girl friend, who lives in New York City, and a notebook notation by Schroeder listing his name, his parents' names and their address—which he gave to the returned veteran at the start of the campaign for use in just such an emergency.

Sgt. Schroeder, who was a member of the first armored regiment, had been in service three years. He was a graduate of Hammond high school and had worked for the Owen Candy company, Hammond, before enlisting Nov. 21, 1940. He trained at Fort Knox, Ky., and Fort Dix, N. Y., and was sent overseas first to Ireland, later to England and lastly to north Africa.

Despite the fact that the other soldier assured them there is no possibility that Sgt. Schroeder still is alive, the family still clings to hope of his survival.



## *Gets Oak Leaf Cluster*



Hammond Times, December 15, 1943

In recognition of "exceptionally meritorious achievements on a bombing mission over enemy territory in Europe," the oak leaf cluster awarded to Sgt. Arthur Berkovitz of Indiana Harbor was presented last night to his mother, Mrs. Fannie Berkovitz, 3712 Grand boulevard, by Lt. Milton Feinberg of the army air force. Mrs. Berkovitz was accompanied by another son, Harry, who lives in the Twin Cities.

Berkovitz, who enlisted in the army air force the day after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, has been missing since May 19 when his plane was shot down while he was on his 15th mission over country occupied by the enemy.

Lt. Feinberg, who was accompanied by Sgt. Edgar D. Brann, was introduced by Capt. Robert R. Speed. The presentation was made at a regular meeting of Twin City Post No.

266 of the American Legion, with Dr. A. W. Sirlin, commander presiding.

Guests at the meeting included nine coast guardsmen who have seen action, in the various theaters of war and six members of the coast guard temporary reserve serving in the Calumet region.

The regular coast guardsmen were Wayne Shumway, Melvin Baldwin, George Klemchuck, Frank Tree, Albert Lyons, George Pajannan, George Oostermollen, Howard Albee and James Meyers, and the temporary reserves present were Walter Bourque, Mike Magdo, Arthur Walstrum, Leo Scherette, John Matlon and Baron Richards.

Other guests were Byron Waggoner, first district commander of the Legion; Louis Colleys, district adjutant, and Charles Lehman, chef de gare of the 40 and 8.



**Pvt. THOMAS MURRAY KILLED IN ITALY—  
WIDOW TOLD SON IS DEAD**



**Pvt. Murray**

Hammond Times, January 3, 1944

Wartime tragedy befell still another Hammond home this week-end with receipt of a war department telegram by Mrs. Ethel Murray, 533 Cherry street, telling her one of her two sons in service has been killed in action.

Listed as a casualty in the Italian campaign is Pvt. Thomas R. Murray, 20, who enlisted in service 19 months ago. According to the telegram, Pvt. Murray was killed in action Dec. 3. No further details have yet been forwarded to his grieving mother.

Another son, Pvt. Jack Murray, 19, now is in training at Camp McCall, N. C.

Pvt. Thomas Murray had been trained at Camp Cook, Calif., Camp Forrest, Tenn., Pine Camp, N. Y. and Fort Ethan Allen, Vt., where he won an expert marksman's medal. He went overseas Nov. 4, directly to Italy. He was a graduate of Hammond Technical high school and worked at the Pullman Standard Car Manufacturing company.

His father was a veteran of World war I in which he received wounds which later resulted in his death eight years ago in Edward Hines Memorial veteran's hospital, Ill. Since that time his widow, also employed at Pullman Standard company, has been providing for her two sons.

Mrs. Murray had just gotten up from her sickbed after a siege of pneumonia when the war department telegram arrived. She has also received a letter of sympathy from Lt. Arthur Heltzel of Akron, Ind., whose own brother was killed in a glider crash at Camp McCall and who became acquainted with Pvt. Jack Murray when the latter escorted the dead glider pilot's body to his home.

Another brother, Bud, 26, and two sisters,

Mrs. Ruth Eaton and Mrs. William Sohn, both of Gary, also survive.

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**RECEIVES PROMOTION**



**R. Meisterling**

Hammond Times, January 3, 1944

Cpl. Robert Meisterling wrote his wife, Ruth, 645 Wentworth avenue, Calumet City, that he recently received his stripes and he is still with Pvt. Bill DeCamp of Lansing at their air force base in New Guinea. The soldiers have been overseas since last May. The corporal's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Edward Meisterling of 6434 Madison avenue, Hammond.

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**FOLLOWS FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS**



**Vern Edwards**

Hammond Times, December 26, 1943

Cpl. Vern Edwards is trying to be a soldier worthy of his father, Harry J. Edwards, 2328 White Oak avenue, Whiting.

The latter was a prominent member of that dashing rough and ready Rainbow division in the first World war. The 42nd division earned its name, "Rainbow," because it was composed of National Guard units from practically all states.



## GARY SHEET, TIN MILL PLANT GUARDS TO GET ARMY COMMAND GUIDON TODAY



**Sgt. Robert Horvath**

Hammond Times, December 22, 1943

Ninety plant guards of the Gary sheet and tin mill of Carnegie-Illinois Steel corporation received the superior plant guard guidon and individual accomplishment medals from the army's sixth service command during a ceremony this afternoon at the plant.

During the ceremonies, Mrs. Joseph S. Horvath, 1164 Summer street, Hammond, whose son, Staff Sgt. Robert J. Horvath, is a prisoner of war in Germany, will be presented with the air medal with three oak leaf clusters by Lt. H. W. Sovrensky of the army air forces.

Sgt. Horvath, an aerial gunner and a former sheet and tin mill employe where his father still is employed, was shot down recently during one of the devastating raids by American planes on the Ruhr valley. A brother, Lloyd, who is serving in the navy, will attend the ceremony.

The army guidon is being awarded to the plant guards for their close cooperation with the sixth service command's plant protection program and for their proficiency in marksmanship and excellence in military drill of the force, headed by E. I. Kidwell.

Brig. Gen. William E. Guthner, director of internal security division of the sixth service command; Col. C. J. Ojten, commanding officer of district No. 3; Lt. Col. J. S. Harvey; Maj. J. S. Westbrook; Maj. E. C. Millstead; Capt. George M. Unsworth and others will be present for the presentation.

## PROMOTED TO TORPEDO MATE



**Al Hanaway**

Hammond Times, December 5, 1943

Although he's only 17 years of age, TM3/c Albert Hanaway, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Hanaway, 916 Highland street, Hammond, already has completed his training as a torpedoman's mate. He is awaiting assignment to active duty.

Albert's brother, Arthur Hanaway, is a private, first class, with the engineers air force company in England. Albert has been in service 10 months, while Arthur has been serving slightly more than a year. Both are graduates of Hammond high school, where Albert played football and Arthur excelled in dramatics.

## RECEIVES PROMOTION



**R. Joseph**

Hammond Times, January 11, 1944

In the service of our sea arm, the United States navy, for three years come this February, Robert Joseph recently received a promotion.

He is now petty officer, second class. Joseph is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Harms, 7016 W. 25th avenue, Black Oak. He serves at present in south Pacific area on active duty.

P/O Joseph is a mere 20 years old.



**MOTHER SURE SON IS ALIVE**  
**Parents Believe Their Son, Sgt. John Toth, is**  
**a Prisoner and Not War Casualty**



**Sgt. J. Toth**

Hammond Times, December 15, 1943

"I just can't believe it's true. I've a feeling there's been some mistake and that my Johnny is safe and alive."

There were the brave words today of the mother of Sgt. John Toth, 22-year-old waist gunner in an American bomber, who has been reported killed in action in a war department telegram sent to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Toth, 1510 Fred street, Whiting.

From meager information they have been able to obtain, the parents learned Sgt. Toth was believed killed when his plane was downed April 16 during a raid over Germany. He was first reported missing in action in May and the telegram reporting his death is the only other word his grieving parents have had about him.

Mrs. Toth said today, however, that the radioman who served in the same part of the plane as Sgt. Toth has been reported a prisoner of the Nazis.

"If Johnny had been killed in that raid, it also seems likely the radioman who now is a prisoner also would have been killed," the mother said prayerfully. "I think Johnny is a prisoner and that his whereabouts just aren't known to the war department. I think he'll turn up safe and alive."

Sgt. Toth, who entered service on June 21, 1942, was a graduate of Whiting high school, where he was a member of the school band, and had worked for the Sinclair Oil Refining company, Whiting, before entering service. He has a sister, Lillian, living with her parents at home.

Mrs. Toth also said she has talked with the mother of the radioman-prisoner in Kentucky but that letters from her son have not revealed Sgt. Toth's fate. In an attempt to learn conclusively whether the Whiting gunner lives

or is dead, she has written the radioman at his Nazi prison camp, and now is anxiously awaiting a return letter.

**BOYD KEEPS 'EM FLYING**



**Cpl. Boyd**

Hammond Times, January 11, 1944

Cpl. William F. Boyd, Jr., 737 Michigan street, Hammond, is down in New Guinea, where he keeps 'em flying for the army air corps in his role as an aviation engineer. A Hammond high school graduate, he attended Purdue university one semester before entering employment in erection of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube plant. He enlisted in service Jan. 28, 1943, and was trained at Jefferson barracks and Geiser field, Washington, sailing for the southwest Pacific Aug. 14.

**VISITS AUNT ON STOPOVER**



**P. Hale**

Hammond Times, January 11, 1944

Dropping in on his aunt during a stopover, Sgt. Paul Hale of Galesburg, Ill., was en route to Miami Beach, Fla., from Puerto Rico, where he has served during the past three and a half years as ground crew mechanic.

His aunt is Mrs. Clarence Omens, 4233 Homerlee avenue, East Chicago. He worked at Sinclair Oil company before enlisting in the air corps. Six months at Kelly field, Tex., began his aviation training, after which he went to Puerto Rico.



## NOT LONESOME NOW



**Stahlhut (left) and Brown**

Hammond Times, January 3, 1944

Pvt. Fred J. Stahlhut, left, whose parents live at 4509 Pine avenue, Hammond, is not so lonesome now. He recently met up with Pvt. Othie Brown of Hammond in north Africa. To celebrate they had their picture taken together. Stahlhut's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Stahlhut, and Brown's wife lives on 177th street. Fred has been in Africa since last May and has taken part in the fighting there.

## MILTON BELLAMY IS WOUNDED



**Milton Bellamy**

Hammond Times, December 31, 1943

Word was received here today that Marine Pfc. Milton Bellamy, former Hammond man, was "seriously wounded" in action. His grandfather, John M. Bellamy, 839 Logan street, Hammond, reported that a letter from the marine's father, T. O. Bellamy of Los Angeles, Calif., told of the boy's status.

Pfc. Bellamy has been in the marine corps for two years. His family moved to the west coast when he graduated from Hammond high school and the boy joined the corps there.

## LT. WAYNE BERTA KILLED IN ACTION



Hammond Times, January 11, 1944

**Wayne Berta**

Born the night his father returned from the last World War, Lt. Wayne Berta, well known in Hammond, today, was reported killed in action in New Guinea. Berta, 25, and a resident of Marseilles, Ill., was with the army air corps.

News was received by his aunt, Mrs. Robert Ulbrich, of 4915 Cedar avenue, Hammond, whom the young man often has visited. He is survived by his wife, who lives in Marseilles, Ill., and a sister, Lt. Wanda Berta, a nurse still serving in the United States. He was the son of Vincent Berta. He had been nearly two years in service.

Mrs. Ulbrich's son, PO2/c Robert Ulbrich, has been serving on the south Pacific for two years.

## RAISED O SERGEANT RANK



**C. R. Hovey**

Hammond Times, January 12, 1944

Dr. and Mrs. Robert East, Hammond, have heard the news that their son, Charles R. Hovey, is now a sergeant.

Dr. East is a dental surgeon living at 5135 Hohman avenue, Hammond.

The new sergeant is at his post somewhere in Australia, where he received his promotion.



## WAC ARRIVES IN ITALY



Helene Kowalik

Hammond Times, January 11, 1944

Cpl. Helene Kowalik has arrived safely in Italy, ready to replace an otherwise useful soldier for more active duty.

Cpl. Kowalik enlisted in the WAC Nov. 14, 1942. She took her basic training at Fort Des Moines, Ia., later assuming posts for training at Fort Devens, Mass., and Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.

She is the daughter of Mrs. Mary Kowalik, Johnson avenue, Hammond, and has three brothers in service. Before enlisting, Cpl. Kowalik was employed by Junior Toy company.

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## RAISED TO T-5 CORPORAL

Hammond Times, January 12, 1944

Mrs. Ted Krynski just had word from her husband that he had been promoted T/5 Cpl. Ted A. Krynski from the rank of Pfc. "somewhere in England."

His home address is 6138 Garfield avenue, Hammond. Formerly employed at Pullman-Standard, Cpl. Krynski is attached to a Flying Fortress air force ordnance, in England, where he arrived in July, 1943.

## HAMMOND YOUTH, LISTED AS MISSING IS NAZI PRISONER



Lt. Thompson

Hammond Times, January 12, 1944

Lt. William "Billy" Thompson, Hammond and Calumet district athlete, now is a prisoner of Germany, the war department notified his parents, who recently moved from Hammond to Rochester, Ind. Lt. Thompson was reported missing in action last Nov. 2, when the bomber on which he served as a navigator was shot down after a raid in Austria.

A letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William "Mac" Thompson, who lived at 239 Humpfer street, dated Nov. 1, told how his plane was forced down in Italy.

Lt. Thompson was a graduate of Hammond high school and also attended Ball State Teacher's college. Later he became a metallurgist at Inland Steel company.

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## HIGHLAND LAD PROMOTED



M. Smith

Hammond Times, January 12, 1944

Serving Uncle Sam's navy satisfactorily for over a year has brought a promotion to Maurice N. Smith, somewhere in the south Pacific.

The advancement means he is now a petty officer 1/c, aviation machinist's mate assigned to tinker around with sky boats.

P O 1/c Smith is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Loren Smith, Highway avenue, Highland.



## REGNIER HOME ON LEAVE



R. O. Regnier

Hammond Times, January 12, 1944

Lt. Ronald O. Regnier, ex-Griffith resident, is home on a 10-day leave from his post at Camp Forrest, Tenn.

He is visiting his wife, Mrs. Ann M. Regnier, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Soltwisch, of Griffith and Lansing respectively. Latter's address is 17957 Lorenz avenue.

Lt. Regnier has a brother, Pvt. Ozzie R. Regnier, who is stationed at a post in the Hawaiian islands, serving in the infantry branch.

## SAYS ENGLISH ARE SWELL



Jerry O'Neil

Hammond Times, January 12, 1944

Yeoman 3/c Jerry O'Neil is in England and he writes to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. O'Neil, 7035 Hohman avenue, Hammond, that the hospitality of the English and Scotch is 'swell,' the food is good and the country beautiful. Jerry joined the navy in February,

1943, and is assigned to an advanced amphibious group.

He took his boot training at Great Lakes, Ill., and advanced training at a navy base at Boston, Mass. He asks friends to write him at Navy No. 320, c/o Fleet Post Office, New York, N. Y.

## FUNERAL SATURDAY FOR HAMMOND BOY AIR CRASH VICTIM



Sgt. Harbut

Hammond Times, January 7, 1944

Funeral services will be held at 10 a. m. Saturday from St. Casimir's church for Staff Sgt. Ted Harbut, 25, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harbut, 4217 Grover avenue, who died in an army airplane crash near Avon Park, Fla., air base. The Rev. John Biernacki will officiate and burial will be in Holy Cross cemetery with military rites.

The body is at the Jasnowski funeral home, 4404 Cameron avenue.

Harbut, a 1933 graduate of St. Casimir school and a 1937 graduate of Hammond Tech high school, was employed, prior to entering service, by the S. G. Taylor Chain company as an inspector. He was inducted into service April 23, 1942 and trained in Texas and later at Scott Field, Ill., as a radio operator and aerial gunner, graduating in July, 1943.

Besides his parents, he is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Stanley Kulak and Mrs. Louis Bakota, of Hammond, and a brother, Sgt. Theodore, stationed in North Africa.

The dead airman was engaged to Miss Veronica Ogorek of Hegewisch, Ill.



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# Calumet City Sailor Describes Munda Landing

Hammond Times, January 7, 1944

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Sixteen of his companions were killed. Another lost his right leg. But James Coffman, a seaman from Calumet City, didn't get even a scratch when a Japanese tri-motored bomber scored nearly a direct hit on the landing boat that was carrying him, three other sailors and 14 marines in on the first invasion wave during the bloody Munda assault last July.



J. Coffman

Hammond Times, January 7, 1944

The bomb landed less than 15 feet away and the blast shattered the plywood landing barge. It also lifted the 21-year-old Coffman out of the starboard gun turret and hurled him toward shore. He landed in hip-deep water. Somehow — and he never will know just how — he staggered, dazed and fighting unconsciousness, through the 20-odd feet to shore.

Then, as he lay there, shocked, exhausted and aching in every bone, while Jap marines in the nearby jungle growth raked the unprotected beach with machine gun fire, a second Nippon bomber dropped an "egg" flush into a fuel dump a couple hundred feet distance. There was an ear-splitting explosion. Five days later he regained consciousness in a

Munda field hospital.

Affable, keen-witted and good-looking Coffman, who wears service ribbons denoting action in three major battles — Guadalcanal, Munda and Rendova island — had malaria in another 48 hours. Then they evacuated him to Guadalcanal hospital where he was confined for two months.

Currently spending the closing portion of a 40-day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William E. Coffman, and his pretty wife of two years, Gloria, all of 235 Mason street, Calumet City, the youthful hero declares: "I'm damn lucky to be alive and all in one piece."

Seaman Coffman is in the navy's newest and most dangerous branch — the amphibious force. That's the outfit that ferries in the men who establish beachheads and then returns to the transport for more men, supplies and artillery. Many a time, Coffman recalled, he stood a 36-hour trick plying between shore and ship in the landing boat — which resembles a flat-bottomed scow.

His leave ends in five days and he has orders to report then to the Brooklyn naval hospital for a physical check-up. The ex-Thornton Fractional high school student, who was employed by the naval department at Washington, D. C., after graduating from the Calumet City school, expects to pass the physical with flying colors and then prepare to get in "on the ground floor" of the impending European invasion.

Coffman, who enlisted at the age of 19, can grin a bit now in telling about that Munda nightmare. But he stared death in the face and he's not ashamed to admit it.



## PLAN BIRTHDAY PARTY



E. Spejewski

Hammond Times, January 7, 1944

"Somewhere in England" a Hammond uncle and nephew are planning a birthday union Jan. 16 to celebrate the 19th birthday of the nephew, Pvt. Edward S. Spejewski. The uncle, also of 1522 Hoffman street, is Cpl. Steve Grelecki. Both men are in the army engineer corps, although stationed 300 miles



S. Grelecki

apart, and hope to get short leaves to stage that birthday celebration, Mrs. Stanley Spejewski, mother of Edward and brother of Steve, learned recently. Last October the soldier duo spent two days with each other at an English town — the first time they met since Steve, 27, left for the army two years ago. Edward was inducted shortly after reaching 18. Steve, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephan Grelecki, Sr., and Edward were employed at American Steel Foundries' East Chicago plant when inducted.

## IN ENGLAND



W. Budine

Hammond Times, January 9, 1944

Word of the safe arrival in England of Cpl. Wayne Budine has been received by his wife, Mrs. Blossom Budine of 1141 — 150th street, Hammond. Cpl. Budine, who received his two stripes shortly before leaving for overseas, has been in the service since last April. His brother, S/Sgt. Merle Budine has been with the army in Hawaii for more than two years. He was on the island when the Japanese struck at Pearl Harbor.

## WINS PROMOTION



C. Stewart

Hammond Times, January 9, 1944

Charles Stewart wrote his parents that he won a promotion to aviation machinist's mate 3/c. They live at 266 Detroit street in Hammond. Stewart completed his high school study at Hammond Tech and enlisted in the Navy, Sept., 1942. He served his boot training at Great Lakes, Ill., and has spent the last year at a Navy base at Dutch Harbor in the Aleutians.



## SEES NEW GUINEA ACTION



**B. Stolarz**

Hammond Times, Jan. 7, 1944

Stationed in New Guinea so long he calls the natives by their first names, Cpl. Bernard M. Stolarz recently received a promotion to technician T/5th grade.

He had been on the south Pacific "paradise" five months when upped, and wrote his mother, Mrs. Anna Stolarz, 4111 Dearborn avenue, Hammond, of the news the other day.

Cpl. Stolarz graduated at Hammond Tech, class of '39. W. J. Holiday company of Hammond was his employer before induction.

He is with the engineers aviation battalion.

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## JOHN J. HAUK



**John J. Hauck**

Hammond Times, Jan. 7, 1944

There's a girl in Sydney and a girl in New Orleans, to say nothing of all the girls he knows back home in Hammond, but S 1/c John James Hauck just can't get his letters fast enough.

That's what he writes from Australia to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Hauck, of 5433 Webster avenue, Hammond. Please, he asks, address his mail to armed guard center, San Francisco, c/o S. S. Ponce, N-42.

John is a gunner on his ship, but is seeking a transfer to aerial gunnery so, as he says, "I'll be able to go damn near everywhere." Nineteen years old, he graduated last year from Hammond Technical high school and joined the navy immediately.

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## DOWNS TWO FOE PLANES



**Sgt. Lemino**

Hammond Times, January 10, 1944

Credited with two enemy aircrafts destroyed in aerial combat, Staff Sgt. Frank P. Lemino, 23-year-old AAF Flying Fortress tail gunner of 1442 Fischrupp avenue, Whiting, Ind., has completed 50 bombing missions.

Lemino began combat flying in June 28, 1943, with a mission to Leghorn, Italy and finished up Dec. 16, with a raid on Padue in northern Italy. He has been awarded the air medal with 11 oak leaf clusters.

A native of Whiting, the gunner was employed as a machinist for Inland Steel corporation of Indiana Harbor, Ind., until entering the army July 28, 1942. He is unmarried.



## MARINE DIES IN GILBERTS



Pfc. Luchene

Hammond Times, January 4, 1944

Eighteen years old and one of the first Americans to storm the Gilbert Islands, Pfc. Luchene of Hammond was killed in action with the enemy Nov. 18.

This message has been received from the war department by his father, Francis Luchene, 4439 Sheffield avenue.

Luchene entered marine corps 16 months ago after leaving Hammond Technical high school. His brother, Cleyon, is in service at Camp Livingston, La.

He is survived by three other brothers, Ellis, Jacob and Homer, all of Hammond, and by three sisters, Mrs. Elaine Chandos and Mrs. Leara Heart of Hammond and Mrs. Cecil Blume of South Chicago.

## BROTHERS MEET IN PANAMA

Hammond Times, January 6, 1944

Stationed in Panama for two and a half years, Cpl. Charles Puglia received a surprise visit from his young brother, Seaman Second Class Frank Puglia, recently.

Both boys are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Puglia, 4419 Indianapolis boulevard, East Chicago.

Frank and Charles, who hadn't seen each other for two and a half years, enjoyed the

Christmas holidays together. Cpl. Puglia is with the medical detachment, while Seaman Frank is on convoy duty.



Charles and Frank Puglia

Both attended Roosevelt high school. Frank was employed by Graver Tank and Cities Service, Charles in his father's barber shop. Another brother is Pfc. Anthony Puglia, with the signal corps in England.

## HOME FOR A MONTH

After serving a year in Guadalcanal with the navy seabees, H. Raymond Larson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Larson, 653 Sibley street, Hammond, came home on a 30-day leave re-



R. Larson

Hammond Times, January 14, 1944

cently. He is spending the welcome "vacation" with his parents and his wife, Mrs. Anita Larson, Elgin, Ill.

Larson is a machinist mate 2/c, having enlisted in the construction battalion of the navy in August, 1942. He was a plumber in civilian life. When his leave ends, he will report to San Francisco for duty.



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## Sends New Year Greetings to 'Daddy' Overseas

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Hammond Times, December 31, 1943

This picture is arriving "somewhere in the South Pacific" just about now to bring New Year cheer to the baby's father, Lt. Frank Henry Burrow, who left for overseas duty with the U. S. army forces early this fall. Mrs. Burrow, the former Betty Elstun, and Baby Susan, sat for the photographer when Susan,

who was born Nov. 14, was but three weeks old, so that the picture would arrive overseas as a holiday greeting for the soldier "daddy." At the Wesley M. Elstun home, Forest avenue, where Susan and her mother are residing with the latter's parents for the duration, Mr. Elstun's birthday today is especially joyous because they are there.

### NEW HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL HEAD



Ald. William Meisel

Hammond Times, January 11, 1944

Forceful William M. Meisel, second district councilman, was unanimously elected 1944 president of the Hammond common council last night. He succeeds Ald. Hugh D. Studabaker, Jr., who was named to fill the unexpired term of Roy Sweitzer, now in the army. Meisel, currently serving his second four-year term on the council, was vice president in 1943. Ald. William Watts was elected vice president last night, becoming the first Republican to hold office in the city council since the Democrats came in power in 1935.

He is a member of the Larsen's Post.



## WINGS ON MATT'S TUNIC



P. E. Matt

Hammond Times, January 14, 1944

He used to pilot racing cars and trucks as a civilian; now he pilots single-engine fighter planes. That's Paul E. Matt, son of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Matt, 6516 Calumet avenue, Hammond.

He recently graduated from air school at Spence field, Moultrie, Ga., and had his silver wings pinned on his blouse, while at the same time receiving a second lieutenant's commission.

Lt. Matt, a Hammond high graduate, was in the largest group ever to graduate from Spence field. The graduates will be assigned to combat duty over enemy territory very soon.

## THEY ARE IN THE NAVY NOW



Christopherson

Wood

Hammond Times, January 17, 1944

These lads will help introduce with music

the fourth war bond drive in Hammond tomorrow night.

Raymond Wood (right), son of Mr. and Mrs. O. Wood of 18015 Lorenz avenue, Lansing, is a musician first class in the navy and well known to Hammondites as a former dance band leader. He and Bob Christopherson, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Christopherson of 1839 Pennsylvania avenue, Whiting, third class musician, will be among the 75 blue-jacket musicians and entertainers scheduled to do their stuff before a Calumet region audience.

Wood is a real veteran. He has been in the navy for five years and is one of the survivors of the U. S. aircraft carrier Lexington. He is a Hammond technical high school graduate. Right now he is a member of Cmdr. Eddie Peabody's band.

Christopherson, a member of the Great Lakes broadcasting band, learned his music at Whiting high school and the University of Kentucky. He plays a violin.

## BIANCCARDI UPPED TO P-O



P. Biancardi

Hammond Times, January 19, 1944

Pat Biancardi is now a second class petty officer, advanced from a fireman first class. Pat, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Biancardi, 4835 Olcott avenue, East Chicago, is serving overseas.

Roosevelt high is his alma mater, starring in basketball and cross country. Socony-Vacuum oil was his employer up to a year ago when he entered the navy.

P/O Biancardi serves on a destroyer and works with the Diesel engine. He was home for only four days after Thanksgiving since enlisting. A brother, stationed at Salina, Kan., is a corporal in the army.





Pfc. Thos. Long

Hammond Times, January 14, 1944

Still another Calumet area survivor of the bitter and bloody battle for the "mile of hell" that was Tarawa is Marine Pfc. Thomas S. Long, 22-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Long, 6534 Hohman avenue, Hammond.

The Longs received word recently that he has been wounded in action and believe he now is recuperating at a rest camp on one of the south Pacific islands. They also received a letter from him, recounting some details of the battle.

"Well, I finally got to see a little action," Pfc. Long wrote. "And I'm thankful to say I came out of it alive and without a scratch. If anyone should ask you if I have any Japs to my credit, you can say yes. How many I couldn't say, but it was plenty. At times our machine guns were too close to them for comfort."

Pfc. Long, who entered service in November, 1942, and received his basic training in California, met another marine who was recuperating at the rest camp after Tarawa. He is Marine Pfc. Sam Postlewaite, son of Sam Postlewaite, son of Sam Postlewaite, advertising manager of The Hammond Times. The two veterans of the costliest battle in the history of the marine corps saw a show together and roamed the town near which the rest camp is located.

Before Tarawa, Pfc. Long also saw service in Australia and, his family believes, may have participated in other Gilbert island fighting.



S. Martine

Hammond Times, January 14, 1944

No matter where the soldier hails from, T4/Gr. Shirley "Bud" L. Martine writes, from his base in the south Pacific, the men at the station read the Hammond Times. The soldier gets the paper delivered and he passes the news around.

Martine, who was employed as a tank tester at Pullman-Standard before entering the service early in 1942, wrote his sister, Mrs. Carrie Treichel, 5421 Price place, Hammond, that army life is great and his friends going into service need only get by basic training before they begin to appreciate army life.

He recalled the past holidays and remembered that in his first year of service he spent Thanksgiving in California and Christmas and New Year's day "across the water." In 1943, he spent Thanksgiving aboard a boat and the next two holidays "somewhere in the south Pacific." Next year, 1944, he said "let's spend all three days at home."

#### WHITING, LOWELL SOLDIERS WOUNDED

Hammond Times, January 16, 1944

Next of kin of two area soldiers were advised this week the soldiers have been wounded in action in the Mediterranean war area.

They are Pfc. Asuncion T. Garcia, husband of Mrs. Irene R. Garcia of Whiting, and Pfc. Delbert Hayden, son of Mrs. Bertha Hayden of Lowell.

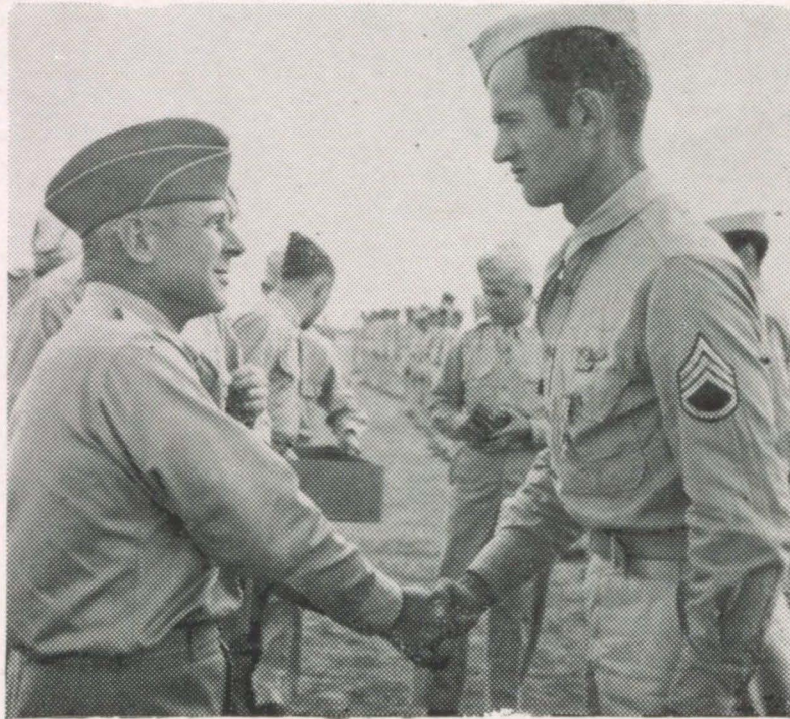
This latest casualty list contained the names of 437 soldiers reported to be wounded in fighting.



## *Hammond Airman Honored by Doolittle*

Hammond Times, January 5, 1944

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When Staff Sgt. John Onyszczak drops bombs on the Nazis he drops 'em in a way Maj. Gen. James Doolittle, quite a dropper himself, likes to see them dropped. That's why the sergeant, son of Mr. and Mrs. Onyszczak, of 6127 Columbia avenue, Hammond, is being decorated in North Africa after a recent flight. He has just received the air medal, the

Distinguished Flying Cross and a warm handshake from the general.

The sergeant recently shot down several enemy planes in raids over Augsburg, Germany and Sofia, Bulgaria. He is now serving in Italy and has been overseas for the past year. Before the war he was employed by the Pullman-Standard company in Hammond.

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### **TWO AREA SOLDIERS LISTED AS WOUNDED**

Hammond Times, January 19, 1944

Two more area soldiers have been reported wounded in action in the European theater of war in latest war department casualty reports, listing a total of 332 names.

They are Sgt. Albert L. Furman, son of Mrs. Caroline Furman, 4943 Indianapolis boulevard, East Chicago, and Pfc. David B. Yatso, son of Mrs. Mary Yatso of Gary.

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### **GRIFFITH SOLDIERS MEET**

Hammond Times, January 19, 1944

Word has been received that there has been a happy meeting of Sgt. John W. Govert and Cpl. Jerrold Dixon at a Red Cross center located somewhere in England. Sgt. Govert is known to many friends as "Bud" and Cpl. Dixon as "Jerry."



## JUST DIDN'T HAVE TIME



Albert Miller

Hammond Times, January 18, 1944

What with fighting, getting wounded, lying in hospital and being shifted about here and there in a war zone, a fellow doesn't have much time to think about little things like military decorations.

That is why Mr. and Mrs. Al Miller, of 537 Harison avenue, Calumet City, didn't receive their son's Order of the Purple Heart until yesterday.

Pfc. Al Miller of Co. B, 163rd U. S. infantry explained in his letter home that although he was wounded on New Guinea in January, 1943 and his merit recognized at the time, he couldn't find time to send the medal until recently. Miller was flown back to Australia after his New Guinea fighting and spent five months in a hospital there. He is okeh now and sends regards to his many Calumet area friends. Miller, 30, worked at Goldblatt Bros., in Hammond before his enlistment in October, 1941.

## STARTS NEW YEAR RIGHT

Hammond Times, January 14, 1944

The navy gave Adam Merchel a New Year's gift by promoting him to petty officer 1/c. Adam is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Merchel, 527 Narva place, East Chicago.

PO 1/c Merchel is a Roosevelt high school graduate and enlisted in the navy July 16, 1942. He trained as a "boot" and also received his specialist courses at Great Lakes, from where he graduated as machinist's mate 2/c in January, 1943, and has served actively ever since.

Adam saw action in the Atlantic, the Mediterranean, and took part in the Sicilian and Salerno invasion. It was upon returning to his



A. Merchel

New York base recently that he was notified of his promotion.

Before doffing civvies, he was an employe in the roll shop at Continental Roll and Steel foundry.

## TARAWA VET LISTED WOUNDED IN ACTION



Pfc. D. Orr

Hammond Times, January 18, 1944

Pfc. Daniel P. Orr, a Hammond marine, who came through the battle of Tarawa atoll without injury has been wounded in another action, the navy department has notified his wife, Jean, 430 Lewis street. Orr's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Perry Orr, 1017 Eaton street, Hammond.

Writing of the battle for the "Mile of Hell," Tarawa Atoll, Orr said, "I have learned what war is now. I think the Japs want us to remember Dec. 7th — well, now they can remember Tarawa."

The marine hero is recuperating on a south Pacific island and he told of meeting other Hamond marines, among them Sam Postlewaite, Bill Fields and Thomas Long, also veterans of the battle.



## Baby Has First Christmas



Hammond Times, December 24, 1943

Wise as she is, little Tina Tinkham, who will be 11-months-old Christmas day, knows that there is something lacking around her house since her "daddy," Joseph E. Tinkham, local attorney, left for the army a few weeks ago. Pvt. Tinkham is taking his basic training at Fort Custer, Mich. Like so many other

mothers whose husbands are away in service, Mrs. Tinkham, pictured with her rosy-cheeked, dark-eyed baby, is making the youngster's Christmas as bright and cheery as possible at their home in Park place, with a view to future Christmases when the family will be together again.



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# Hammond Mother Receives Letters About Dead Son

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UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

13 September, 1943.

Mrs. Dollie Fetterhoff  
7235 Missouri Street  
Hessville, Indiana.

My dear Mrs. Fetterhoff:

I know that nothing I can say will lessen the sorrow that must be yours in the death of Private Eugene Snyder, but I feel there may be consolation in your knowing that the members of this Regiment are proud to have been associated with such a gallant man. He was unselfish in his devotion to God and Country at all times.

Unfaltering as he was in the face of severe enemy fire, his gallantry contributed greatly to the success of the mission in which he lost his life.

I hope you will find solace also in the knowledge that he was buried with full religious and military honors. His comrades feel that some part of them lies with him beneath the Cross, that we will live with him in eternity.



Because of my personal interest in Eugene, I was able to have a photographer take a picture of the grave and forward it to you herewith.

May God bless you.

(Signed)

PAUL J. REDMLND, O.P.  
Chaplain, First Marine  
Raider Regiment.

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Staff, Amphibious Training  
Command,  
c/o Fleet Post-office,  
San Diego, California.  
October 27, 1943

Dear Mrs. Fetterhoff:

I hope you will not mind my writing to you after such a long time to express my sympathy for the loss of your splendid brother, Eugene Snyder.

It was my privilege to serve as his commanding officer until just a few weeks before the final action. I knew him, as I did most of the men in the Battalion, personally and as my friend. It was with a real sense of loss that I learned of the casualties.

I have been trying to learn the details of the engagement and should information reach me which has not previously been sent to you by the Marine Corps I will again communicate with you.

In the meantime, please accept this expression of my sympathy for you and his family.

Very truly ours,

(Signed)

JAMES ROOSEVELT,  
Lt. Col. James Roosevelt, USMC

Mrs. Dollie Fetterhoff,  
7235 Missouri Avenue,  
Hammond, Indiana.

P.S. The enclosed pictures of the services held by the Battalion Chaplain have just been received. Gene is buried, I believe, at Viru Harbor on the southeast coast of New Georgia.



# Loses Eye in Tarawa Battle



Pfc. Frank Stefko

Hammond Times, December 30, 1943

By Richard Cecil

In his left eye-socket is a glass eye — on his chest is the Purple Heart as token of its loss — and in his heart is a great thankfulness that he is alive — for Tarawa really was a "mile of hell."

"And," says Marine Pfc. Frank Stefko, 23-year-old hero of the bloodiest battle in the 168 years of marine corps history, "I'm damned lucky to have one eye left, after that fight."

Stefko, son of Mrs. Susan Stefko, 1114 Kenwood avenue, is Hammond's first returning veteran of the Tarawa massacre, in which the

marines wrested control of the island atoll from the Japs but at a high price in blood. He arrived home the day before Christmas on a medical furlough.

Contrary to what some people might expect, Pfc. Stefko harbors no bitterness in his soul for the loss of his eye. He gave it — as others gave their life — in the highest tradition of the marine corps while performing his duty in meritorious manner.

"It really was a 'mile of hell,' though," the wounded veteran declared. "Out of 350 men who landed with me in my company, only 20 reached the beach. The rest the Japs either killed with mortar shells or machine-gunned to death."

Stefko was wounded after he had successfully reached the beach, crawled and clipped his way through barbed wire entanglements, hurdled concrete obstacles and dived into Jap-made trenches.

"We were continuing our advance behind on the island when Japs in one of the underground pillboxes hurled sticks of dynamite at one of our two tanks. The dynamite exploded and the detonator-cap bounced off the tank against a tree and into my eye."

All of the Japs he saw and shot were six feet tall and heavily built, Stefko said. They had installed their own brothel on the island and the women fled with the retreating Japs, leaving behind them evidence of their presence.

The Hammond marine's eye was removed on shipboard en route back to San Diego, where he docked Dec. 13. He was treated in the naval hospital there for several weeks and finally given a rest leave with orders to report back to San Diego Jan. 27. Stefko expects to be re-assigned either to limited service or given an honorable discharge.

The only other Calumet area youth he met while on Tarawa was Nick Soley, whose whereabouts he does not know at present. Many of the less seriously wounded veterans were dropped off at Pearl Harbor for treatment.

Continued on next page



Discussing the battle, Stefko said the heavy loss of life resulted when the marines were forced to jump from landing barges 800 yards from the beach and wade through the coral-bottom seashore while the Japs peppered away at them with all types of guns.

"Our officers tried to get those landing barges in closer but it just wasn't possible," Stefko said. "The water was shallow in spots and the barges wouldn't pass over them. When a barge got snagged on the bottom it presented a perfect target for mortar fire from the Japs. A lot of our boys died without even getting off the barges."

Jap treachery was in evidence throughout the landings and in island warfare, the Hammond lad said. As a blind for machine guns, the Japs installed an innocent-looking tramp steamer near the beach and machine-gunned marines to death after they had passed the death-trap, mowing them down from behind.

On the island they would imitate marines calling for help and when unsuspecting Americans responded, they would rise out of underground installations and shoot them.

Stefko, former basketball star at Hammond high school who entered service 20 months ago brought back as souvenirs a 10-yen Jap money sheet worth about \$5 in U.S. currency but which would bring \$200 or more from trophy-hunters in Pearl Harbor. A Jap rifle would bring \$600 there, Stefko said.

A brother, Pvt. John Stefko, 20, now is stationed with the army in Arkansas and another brother, George, 18, is attending Toledo, O., university, where he also is starring on the varsity basketball team.

### CHERISHED LETTER ARRIVES

Hammond Times, January 19, 1944

For two months, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Vessels of 851 State street, Hammond, wondered how their son, Thomas W. Vessels, Jr., was getting along. Then Saturday, along came a letter from England announcing he had been promoted to corporal. He said he had been



T. Vessels

stationed in England for the past four months. Tom wants to be remembered to his old classmates at Hammond high school, where he was a senior when inducted a year ago. His address is ASN 35584948, 3013 Q. M. Btry., Co. A. Mobile Special, APO 526, c/o Postmaster, New York.

### PAYER BOYS MEET IN CALIFORNIA



J. Payer

Hammond Times, January 16, 1944

Just before Pvt. James Payer left for overseas, he met his brother, S/Sgt. Joseph J. Payer, who had been in Panama for four years. Latter has now transferred to Camp Haan, Calif., in which state the meeting took place.

The boys had not seen each other in two years. They are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. James Payer, 4245 Northcote avenue, East Chicago.

Pvt. James is well-known around Roosevelt high school. He played quarterback on the Rough Riders football team, before joining the marines at San Diego, Calif. He wants his friends to write him all the sports news at school. Address: Pvt. James Payer, USMC, 4th Raider Bn., Co., c/o FPO, San Francisco, Calif.



## *Say Japs Play For Keeps*

Hammond Times, January 2, 1944

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Capt. Victor H. Gralak, extreme right, speaks from a host of experiences in south Pacific warfare when he says: "These Japs aren't playing games — they're playing for keeps." He recounted some of his many adventures to his father, Walter A. Gralak, 140 — 155th place, Calumet City, and twin brothers, Robert J., and Walter A., Jr., when he returned home recently on furlough.

Capt. Gralak, who recently was sent back to this country for an operation in which a bullet wound in his spine was patched by grafting a piece of bone from his right leg, has served on Guadalcanal, New Zealand, New Guinea and other south Pacific islands. He was

in command of a machine gun company, having been a member of the enlisted reserves who was called to active duty in March, 1941.

The captain said the Indian type of fighting is much in evidence in the south Pacific area. He declared the Japs use to mean advantage the ruse of calling loudly for a corpsman with a stretcher and then rising from the ground and shooting him down when he responds.

The returned veteran's father also is a war veteran, having served overseas 14 months with the 342nd infantry regiment in World war I. Walter A., Jr., now is serving with the 531st ack-ack company stationed at Fort Devens, Mass.



## BLACKMAN BOYS PROMOTED



F. Blackman

Hammond Times, February 2, 1944

Uncle Sam gave rank advancements to two Blackman boys this past Christmas time. Fred was promoted to corporal and Charles went up to sergeant. They are the sons of the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Blackman and have lived their entire lives in Hammond.

Cpl. Fred has now been transferred to Oregon from Ephrata, Wash., air base. He went to Tech, starred on the track team there, and



C. Blackman

was employed by the Pullman-Standard foundry before entering the air force command a year ago. He is engaged to Miss Mary Alice Fuller of Sibley street, Hammond.

Sgt. Charles Blackman has been stationed in Brazil for 14 months as air corps mechanic. Cities Service was his former place of employment before enlisting in October, 1942. He writes his sisters and brothers here that he would give anything to be able to take an

afternoon walk down "good old Hohman avenue," even though they have been royally entertained by visiting actors and actresses. He doubts if his friends would recognize him since he has become as sun-darkened as the South American natives.

There is another Blackman lad, Pfc. Clarence, stationed at Camp Pinedale, Fresno, Calif., for nine months of the full year he has been in service. His wife, the former Lillian Papp, is with him, in an apartment in Fresno. They were able to see relatives and friends while on an emergency furlough over the holidays. Clarence used to be connected with the Shore Line bus company and is a former Hammond Tech student.

## BROTHERS MEET IN ENGLAND

Hammond Times, February 2, 1944

Surprise is hardly the word to describe the emotion felt by Sgt. Frank C. Meinzer, Jr., when resting on a cot somewhere in England and hearing a familiar voice ask "Remember me?"

It was his brother, Sgt. Arthur D. Meinzer. Both boys are the sons of Frank C. Meinzer, Sr., 4729 Calumet avenue, Hammond.

Arthur, who served overseas for over a year with the medical corps in North Africa, had been in England a couple of months when he heard that his brother's division was stationed at a nearby camp. As soon as possible he rushed to visit Frank, whom he hadn't seen for over a year and a half.



F. Meinzer

A. Meinzer



## *Hammond Flier is Honored*



Hammond Times, December 26, 1943

While a brother serving in the navy looked on, Mrs. Joseph S. Horvath, 1164 Summer street, Hammond, was presented with the United States air medal with three oak leaf clusters honoring her son, Staff Sgt. Robert J., who is a prisoner of war in Germany, yesterday as a feature of a program at the Gary

sheet and tin mill of the Carnegie-Illinois Steel corporation. In the ceremonies 90 plant guards received the superior plant guard guidon and individual accomplishment medals from the army's sixth service command. Above Lt. H. M. Sovrensky, army air corps, presents the medal to Mrs. Horvath with her son, John, and husband looking on.

### **RUCINSKI IS CARGO PILOT**



**A. Rucinski**

Hammond Times, February 2, 1944

Hopping hither and yon over the blue but

far from Pacific, Lt. Albert Rucinski is at the controls of a marine cargo plane, hauling vital materials of war. He is the son of Anthony Rucinski, 1302 Pulaski place, East Chicago.

Lt. Rucinski took his training at Glenview, Ill., and Pensacola, Fla. Before joining the marines, he went to Indiana university where he played on the varsity football squad.

Some of the Pacific island landing strips are so narrow, Rucinski says, that you either land on the strip or in the ocean. So far the East Chicago lieutenant hasn't got his feet wet.



## WHAT COMES AFTER TRILLION?

— Editorial —

Hammond Times, Jan. 14, 1944

(Inter-Office Communication)

Managing Editor:

For years now there has reposed beneath the glass covering of your desk the following typewritten aphorism:

"A nation which is rich, vain and at the same time unprepared, provokes and hastens its own ruin . . . A nation can become so rich that its very wealth will bankrupt it in a war with a country poor but frugal and warlike."

Now that the president asks another 100 billion dollars to bring the total estimate of the cost of the war to 397 billion dollars we suggest you discard the axiom. It haunts us. It doesn't fit in with a public debt of a third of a trillion dollars. It reads like an epitaph.

And by the way, what comes after trillion? Zillion? We were never very good at arithmetic.

An estimated federal debt of 397 billion dollars at 2 per cent will bear interest approximating eight billion dollars a year which is at least three billion higher than our pre-depression federal budgets and to which other costs must be added. One of the added costs will be veterans' rehabilitation, lasting a good many years and conservatively estimated at one billion a year.

Then considering that the ordinary normal budget will run five or six billion per annum, the debt service and veterans' rehabilitation will call for expenditures of at least 15 billion. If there is any European reconstruction or world WPA, such as now proposed by the administration, our part in that enterprise will cost at least five billion, which would raise our total federal budgets to 20 billion a year after the war. (It is safe to assume we would be lucky to get off with five billion for European reconstruction and world WPA).

If the country was suffering from too large a load of private debt prior to the war, with economic consequences which seemed to bring

about structural unemployment, a person who isn't particularly well informed in matters of economics would like to ask the question: What is to be the situation with this tremendous debt added to the private debt that existed prior to the war?

Anybody who can answer that question is a hooperdoo.

Frankly, Mr. Editor, we can't answer any of the questions. We're bushed. FDR is too fast for us.

(Aw, nuts, I'm getting beat. I wanna quit.)  
The Slap-Happy Editorial writer.

## IN NEW CALEDONIA

Hammond Times, January 14, 1944

A letter from their son, Gerald Schaller, was received by Mr. and Mrs. Al Schaller, 421 Waltham street, Hammond, telling of his promotion to petty officer 3/c while serving in the navy at New Caledonia in the south Pacific.

Gerald also wrote that, although he works long hard hours he is very grateful for his bunk, with its springs, clean white sheets, and for the good food, movies and says that he is enjoying every minute of his experience.

Schaller is with a hospital unit as pharmacist's mate and has been overseas nine months. He was formerly associated in business with his father.

## ARMY, NAVY, LIST THREE FROM AREA WOUNDED IN ACTION

Hammond Times, January 14, 1944

Three Calumet area servicemen are listed today as wounded in action.

First Sgt. Benjamin J. Kienzynski, son of Mrs. Caroline Kienzynski, 1175 Waite street, Gary, and Pvt. William E. Laube, son of Mrs. Jennie Laube, 425 McKinley street, Gary, were listed by the army as wounded in Mediterranean area fighting.

Pvt. John Singel, a marine, son of Mrs. Mary Singel, 1518 John street, Whiting, is listed as wounded by the navy, the area not being given.



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# *Hammond Church Buys \$1,000 War Bond*

Hammond Times, December 30, 1943

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One thousand dollars lent to support the war effort will bring beautiful peacetime decorations some day to St. Paul's Lutheran church, Hammond. Above, Mrs. Anton Tapper, treasurer of the Ladies' Aid society is shown buying the \$1,000 war bond from

Walter James Meyer at the Calumet National bank. The Rev. Walter W. Lichtsinn, pastor of the church, smiles his approval of the society's patriotic act. Money was collected for the bonds by church women, foregoing church decorations for the duration.

## **HOME FROM ALASKA**

Hammond Times, January 14, 1944

Pvt. Paul Baranowski, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Baranowski of School street, is enjoying a two-week furlough here after serving 22 months in Alaska. His two brothers, John, seaman second class, and Carl, G.M. second class, who are somewhere on the Pacific, wrote from the Hawaiian islands saying they had en-

joyed a native Christmas party together. Seaman John happened to dock in the same port where his brother already had docked several weeks previously.

Mr. Baranowski, who served for eight months as patrolman for the navy at Pearl Harbor, was released because of ill health early in December.



## *Food Injections Given Child*

Hammond Times, December 30, 1943

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Mrs. Ann Mathews attempts to feed Martha Jean, 13, her crippled-since-birth daughter who is on a grief-stricken hunger strike because her brother, Denis, air cadet, has not been home to see her. The child has lost 15 pounds weight in three weeks, now weighing 20 pounds.

As Martha Jean Mathews, helpless, crippled 13-year-old daughter of Mrs. Ann Mathews, 4296 Calhoun street, Griffith, sank nearer death today military authorities at Sikestown, Mo., declared the brother, Denis, 18, air cadet, will not get a furlough soon to visit his sister.

Mrs. Mathews declared "only Denis can



bring her back" as the helpless child refuses to swallow food placed in her mouth in an involuntary hunger strike which has lasted almost three weeks and during which her weight has gone down from 35 to 20 pounds.

Maj. Harold T. Sheldon, Jr., commanding officer of the 309th army air force flying training detachment at Sikestown, where the youth is enrolled, said:

"The situation is such that it is thought inadvisable that the boy be given a furlough at this time. He is enrolled in the air school and, if given a furlough, it will mean that he will not go ahead in his class."

He added that the camp took the "recommendations of the Red Cross" in such matters.

The Red Cross office at Gary, had informed Maj. Sheldon of the plight of the boy's sister.

The youth could not be reached for comment.

The Red Cross office at Gary said a report from a physician had been sent Maj. Sheldon and that the Red Cross has no control over furloughs.

The Hammond Red Cross also took action to speed Denis' furlough, Mrs. Eugene S. Carpenter, executive director, telephoned Maj. Sheldon to present the case. She was assured, she said, that a furlough would be granted Denis as soon as possible "even if only for 12 hours" to see his sister.

Despite food injections designed to save her fading life, Martha Jean grew weaker.

Her hunger strike, not a voluntary defiance but due to her grief because the brother who had been her almost constant attendant, has not been home to see her, continued. Unable to feed herself, she refuses to swallow food placed in her mouth.

Dr. Morris Shellhouse, family physician, said he had been administering food injections but admitted she was sinking rapidly.

Meanwhile John Blum, liason officer for the Edward Larsen post, Veterans of Foreign

Wars moved for a furlough for Denis, asking Missouri VFW liason officers to contact the camp officers in an attempt to alter their attitude.

The American Legion also entered the battle, Hammond and Lake county posts sending messages to the camp and asking aid of the national headquarters at Indianapolis.

Little Martha Jean, she is only three feet tall and today weighs only 20 pounds, is unable to comprehend her own grief. To her child mind only one thing counts — Denis is not there.

When he left last February for service he consoled her with a promise to return soon to see her. She had rested easily until three weeks ago when he telephoned from the camp.

The receiver was held to her ear and his beloved voice penetrated her consciousness. She believed him near. When he failed to appear she began to cry. Efforts of the mother to explain were futile.

Martha Jean refused to eat. Day after day she rejected food. Day after day she lost weight, going from 35 to 20 pounds.

Physicians doubted that Denis' appearance would save her life but admitted she might rally if his voice and face cheered her.





## JACK OLIN McNARY



Jack and Meleda McNary

Jack Olin McNary was born November 4, 1919 in Martinsville, Illinois. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sherman McNary of Lansing, Michigan. He graduated from Thornton Fractional High School in 1937. His grandparents Charles and Ella Cross of Lansing, Illinois reared him ever since he was the age of 5 years at which time his mother passed away. His brother Denny a paratrooper is now serving overseas, location unknown.

After he graduated from high school he was employed by the Ford Motor Company, and just before he entered the service of the United States Navy he was farming.

He was inducted November 19, 1943, and received his boot training at Great Lakes, Illinois. From there he was sent to an Electrical school in Rhode Island.

He was married to Miss Meleda Sosnowski who was the daughter of Anthony and Helen Sosnowski, at the present time the home address of Jack and his wife is 219 Pulaski road, Calumet City, Illinois. Jack at the present time is on the Air Craft Carrier U. S. S. Han-

cock, rating Seaman 2/c Electricians Mate. His wife Meleda is employed by the Hoekstra Cleaning Company at 5324 Hohman avenue, Hammond, Indiana.

## HOWARD MARVIN BURGESON

Howard Marvin Burgeson was born April 17, 1919, in Lansing, Illinois. He was the son of Gust and Hattie Burgeson. He attended the Public schools in Lansing and the Thornton Fractional high school in Calumet City, Illinois.

He was employed at the Queen Ann Candy Company, and resided at 217 Pulaski road in Calumet City, Illinois. He was inducted in the United States Army in April, 1942. He received his training at the following camps: Camp Forrest, Tenn., Tacoma, Washington, Camp Clipper, Needles, California, then for some desert training which he received in California.



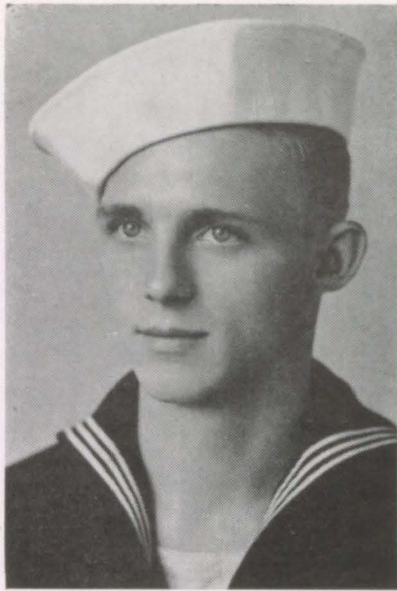
Howard M. Burgeson

His rating is a Private first class, serial number 36331653 and is in Company F. 136th Infantry. He was sent overseas in July, 1943 and is now somewhere in the Hawaiian Islands.

He has one brother Don Burgeson who also lives in Calumet City, Illinois.



## HECKMAN BROTHERS



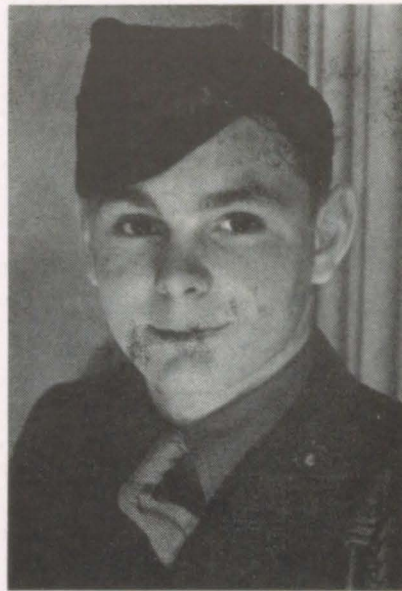
Claude R. Heckman

Claude R. Heckman, Jr., S 1/c, U. S. S. Nevada, was born in Hammond, Indiana, December 19, 1922. After he was 4 years of age his parents moved to Lansing, Illinois, where they still reside at the present time at 18430 Chicago avenue. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude R. Heckman.

He attended the public schools in Lansing and Thornton Fractional high school in Calumet City, Illinois. He enlisted in the Navy, September 7, 1942 and assigned to his ship at Bremmerton, Washington. He saw plenty of active service in the Aleutians, and the Southwest Pacific. At the present time he is somewhere in the Atlantic.

Robert E. Heckman was born December 31, 1924 in Hammond, Indiana, he was two years old when his parents moved to Lansing, Illinois. He too was educated in the same schools that his brother attended. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps August 3, 1942. He received three months training at Camp Elliott at San Diego, California, and sailed for overseas duty about November 5, 1942. He saw active service in Guadalcanal in December, 1942 and was stricken with Malaria fever in January, 1943. He was sent to New Zealand and was there for about five months.

He was in the battle of Tarawa on November 20, 1943 and fought for seventy-two



Robert E. Heckman

hours, being one of the eighty-two men left in his outfit, and coming through without a scratch. He has served in Toluga, New Hebrides, New Caledonia, and at the present time his location is unknown.

### DEDICATED

*To the Memory of  
SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR COMRADES  
The fifteenth day of February is here once  
more.  
To remember our Comrades of the Spanish-  
American War.  
The boys who fought and died for us in  
"Ninety-eight."  
Their Memory we must remember and com-  
memorate.  
Bully beef, hard tack and very little pay.  
The regulars and volunteers will not forget  
this day.  
They too, fought and marched thru mud and  
rain.  
"Remember Pearl Harbor," but also "Remem-  
ber The Maine."  
Salute these Comrades who's ranks are grow-  
ing thin.  
Pay tribute, on the street or any building you  
are in.  
And let us pray, that our boys overseas.  
Will bring us Victory with everlasting Peace.*

—WM. KROKOSKI  
Chaplain, Post 802 V.F.W.



## EUGENE C. SMITH



Eugene C. Smith

Eugene C. Smith was born October 4, 1922 in Danville, Illinois. While still a very small boy his parents moved to Hammond, Indiana — receiving his education in the schools there, and graduated from Hammond high school in 1940.

He is the son of Carl and Mildred Smith, residing at 6604 Arkansas avenue in Hammond. He was a member of the Boy Scouts of America. Before enlisting in the United States Army he was employed by the American Steel Foundry Company in Hammond. He has one brother Roy Edward Smith who is still at home.

He enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps April 5, 1941 and was sent to Ft. Benjamin Harrison at Indianapolis, Indiana — from there to Marsh Field, California and was there from April 15 to November 1, 1941. On November 1st he was sent to his Port of Embarkation, San Francisco, California and went to the Philippine Islands, arriving there about December 8th. On this date he sent greetings home by Radiogram. Two days later the Japs made a raid on the Islands in which he was seriously wounded.

On Christmas Eve his parents were notified by the War Department that Eugene was

seriously wounded. From that date to the present time (February 22nd, 1944) they have never received any communication from him. The parents have made several contacts with the War Department, but to date they have been unable to locate him. The supposition is that he was captured by the Japs when they took possession of the Islands on May 10, 1942.

In a letter from the War Department dated May 7, 1943, we quote "The records of the War Department show your son, Pvt. Eugene C. Smith, No. 15,062,345 Air Corps, missing in action in Philippine Islands since May 7, 1942." His parents are hoping and praying that Eugene may be well and alive, and that some day not in the to far future he may be home with them again.

## THE THILMONT BROTHERS

Raymond A. Thilmont was born February 14, 1921 in Highland, Indiana. He was educated in the schools in Highland and Hammond Technical high school. They were the sons of Allen and Florence Thilmont.

Raymond was inducted into the United States Army October 21, 1942 and was sent



Raymond Thilmont

to Fort Benjamin Harrison at Indianapolis, Indiana — then to Fort Bliss, Texas, where he



spent the most of his training in the States.

Raymond was called home on account of the death of his father who passed away on November 20, 1942. He is in the Army Anti Air Craft Division, Battery D, 163rd A.A.A. Bn., serial number 35562607.

After about 9 months of training at Fort Bliss, Texas he was sent to the Port of Em-



**Robert Thilmont**

barkation, San Francisco, California, his destination was Australia, from there to New Guinea, and now the family does not know where he is only in the South Pacific area.

Robert J. Thilmont was born September 25, 1925 in Highland and was educated in the schools there and also Hammond Tech high school. He was one of the stars of the Hammond Tech Basketball team in 1942.

He was inducted into the United States Army February 15, 1943, and was sent to Fort Benjamin Harrison at Indianapolis, Indiana. Then to Wolters, Texas, and on June 22, 1943 he was transferred to Camp San Luis Obispo, California — from there to the Port of Embarkation, San Francisco, California — to the Hawaiian Islands where he is at the present time. He is in Company C, 1st Infantry, Serial number 35095307.

Both boys received the sad message that their mother, Mrs. Florence Thilmont had

passed away January 16, 1944. Both were overseas when they received this message. Their hearts heavy with grief with both parents gone and two sisters and a small brother at home. The youngest brother John who is eight years old and Blanch and Ruth are the ones who are keeping the home fires burning, and Glenn the oldest brother who is married lives in Hammond.

## ELMER AUSTGEN

Elmer J. Austgen, born June 30, 1916 in Hammond, Indiana. He is the son of Pete and Mary Austgen who live at 5257 State Line street in Hammond. He was educated in the St. Joseph and Catholic Central high school.



**Elmer J. Austgen**

Before entering the service of the United States Army he was employed by the Lever Bros. Company. He was inducted April 16, 1942 and went to Camp Leonard Wood, Missouri, from there he was transferred to Camp Shelby, Mississippi. He was the only child of the Austgen family.

He is now at the Port of Embarkation in New York a Corporal in Co. A, 512th M. P. Bn. A.P.O. 9494, c/o Postmaster, New York City, N. Y. Serial No. 35352416.

He was married to Miss Patrice McShane, who is the daughter of James and Mary McShane of Hammond, Indiana. Elmer is 28 years old and has already served 22 months in the Army.



## SGT. NED EDWIN YORK



Sgt. Ned York

Sgt. Ned Edwin York was born July 1st, 1915 in Covington, Indiana and was the son of Charles and Mable York. He has four brothers, David, Paul, Charles, and Robert, and two sisters Elizabeth and Helen who reside in Hammond. Ned is in the United States Army at San Antonio, Texas.

He was inducted June 24, 1941 and went to Fort Riley, Kansas, and from there to Fort Bliss, Texas, where he received the promotion of technician 4th grade. He served in the following Camps in Texas on the Mexican border. Fort D. A. Russell, at Marfa, Camp Persito and Camp Brownsville at Brownsville, Texas. He was then transferred to Camp White Oregon at Medford, Oregon, there he was promoted to Staff Sergeant.

Before leaving the state of Texas, while at El Paso in June, 1942, he was married to Miss Anna Mae White who is the daughter of Oliver S. and Agnes White, 6332 Jefferson street, Hammond, Indiana.

While at Camp White, Oregon, he was called home to the bedside of his father who was very ill. He spent several days with him and while returning to Camp his father passed away on October 1, 1942 by the time he re-

turned to the Camp and he received the news it was too late for him to get back for the funeral.

On January 23, 1944 he received his Port of Embarkation orders to destination unknown. He received a furlough to go home on March 25, and returned to Portland, Oregon February 11 to return to his unit there.

## PURPLE HEART AWARDED TO JACK RASMUSSEN



Jack Rasmussen

Mrs. John Rasmussen of Chicago avenue received a package this week containing a purple heart award, and several other smaller ribbon citations including a ribbon and star given for service in the South Pacific theatre of war, from her son Jack who is with the Marines somewhere in the south Pacific.

Jack received the purple heart for having been wounded in action during the Guadalcanal campaign about a year ago. A letter accompanied the package. In the letter Jack told his mother that instead of the anticipated furlough home he was again being sent into action. He has been confined to a hospital for the past several months. The letter was written on October 29, and received here November 27. Jack has observed two birthdays in the Pacific war area.



## NATIVES HOP WITH JOY

Lansing Journal

Native women on the south Pacific island atoll of Tarawa were so grateful when American marines freed them from their Jap captors that they danced for hours to entertain their liberators.

This interesting sidelight on the bloody battle for the "mile of hell" was contained in a letter written to Mr. and Mrs. John Rasmussen of Chicago avenue, Lansing, by their son, Marine Pvt. Jack Rasmussen.

And Pvt. Rasmussen doesn't speak from hearsay, either, for he was one of the heroes of the battle. It wasn't his first active encounter with the Japs, for he also had fought them on Guadalcanal last February, receiving minor wounds that later reverted into malarial fever.

Although his wordage in the letter was limited by marine corps orders, Pvt. Rasmussen said he was allowed to say "the big battle of Tarawa is finished and all the Japs are killed."

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### CHARLES BINGHAM



Charles Bingham

Pfc. Charles Bingham, born October 2, 1921 in Taylorville, Illinois, enlisted in the

United States Marines in 1941, and at that time became engaged to Marjorie Rasmussen of Lansing, Illinois. As soon as the United States declared war they got married and Charles left immediately for Iceland, and at the present time he is still there. Charles is a member of the Edward H. Larsen Post. His serial number is 16017095.



Mrs. Marjorie Bingham

After he left for Iceland his wife Marjorie joined the WAC's and was sent to Camp Polk in Louisiana for her training. She was there for several months and was given a medical discharge. The Rasmussen family live at 18508 Chicago avenue in Lansing. Marjorie is a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Larsen Post and also has a brother serving overseas.

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### WILLIAM T. WARMAN

Pvt. William T. Warman was born in Cleaton, Kentucky, December 15, 1915 and enlisted in the United States Army at Fort Knox, Ky. on July 5, 1940 and was assigned to the 13th Armored Regiment. His serial number is 15041844.

He was the only child of Jacob L. and Carrie E. Warman who now live in Hammond, Indiana.

He left the States on the Queen Mary the



early part of May, 1942 to Belfast, Ireland and remained there about 11 months. He then went to Liverpool, England, remaining there about six weeks. He left Liverpool on the U.S.S. Brazil for Africa. He was in the Supply Detachment hauling supplies to the front, and saw his first action with the enemy at Algiers, Africa.



William T. Warman

He also made the Tunisian Campaign and was shell shocked in this engagement. He was first taken to the Field Hospital at Tunisia, and then by plane a distance of 800 miles to the 6th General Hospital at Oran, Africa, making the flight in 3½ hours. This was a Free French Hospital operated by the Americans — while there he saw General Giraud the French General. He was in this hospital about 5 weeks.

He was then transferred by plane to Casablanca a distance of about 800 miles and placed in a hospital there for about two months. He arrived at Casablanca about a week after President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill had been there.

He sailed from Casablanca on April 20, 1943 and landed on Staten Island April 27th, he entered Haloran General Hospital there, and remained there about one week and was transferred to Darnell General Hospital at Danville, Kentucky. He was discharged from

this hospital on July 14, 1943 and sent direct from there to the Veterans Facility at Fort Custer, Michigan, remaining there about three weeks and came to his home in Hammond, Indiana.

## RICHARD ARTHUR ORPHEY



Richard A. Orphey

Richard Arthur Orphey was born March 15, 1924 in Hammond, Indiana, and educated in the All Saints and Hammond high schools. He made application for enlistment in the Marine Corps in February, 1942 and was accepted in June of the same year. The reason they were so slow in accepting him was on account of his height. He is 6 ft. 3 1/4 inches tall.

He received his boot training in Paris Island, South Carolina, then transferred to New York where he received a course in Radio, after he finished this course he joined the 4th Volunteer Raiders. He left San Diego, California February 9, 1943 for the South Pacific area. They received a letter from him once while he was in a hospital in New Zealand. He holds the rating of a Corporal, and his serial number is 406086.

He is the son of Peter F. and Gertrude Or-



they who reside at 1030 Drackert street in Hammond. Richard returned to the United States in June, 1943 having had Malaria fever. At the present time he is in the Naval Air Base in Astoria, Oregon. He has been re-examined and is ready for overseas duty again. He has a brother Francis who is in the Navy, and one sister, Mrs. Winifred Horvath of Hammond, Indiana.

## MOTHER AND SON

PFC. EDWARD E. FRANZ



Edward E. Franz

Edward E. Franz was born June 20, 1920 in Chicago Heights, Illinois, and was educated in the schools there. His father served in the First World War and was Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post in Chicago Heights.

Edward was inducted October 16, 1941, and was sent overseas August 22, 1942 and landed in England, from there to Cassablanca, Africa, and took an active part in the campaign there. He was also in the invasion campaign in Sicily. His serial number is 35169805,

he is in the Army 78th Ordinance Company, Depot.

MRS. LILLIAN KNERR



Mrs. Lillian Knerr

Mrs. Lillian Knerr the wife of Owen C. Knerr — the present historian of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Edward H. Larsen Post No. 802 — is the daughter of John and Mary Tanner of Chicago Heights, Illinois. Her son, Edward E. Franz has served in the African and Sicilian campaigns.

Mrs. Knerr has served this Post as Historian for more than two years — was Color Bearer in 1942, Junior Vice President in 1943-1944. At the present time she has been placed in charge of the Booth in the Minas Department Store to promote the sale of War Bonds.

The Edward H. Larsen Post publishes a monthly bulletin edited by Henry W. Carr, which Mrs. Knerr has had the honor of naming, "OUR COMRADES." A contest was conducted by the Auxiliary and many names were turned in. Mrs. Knerr won with her title "OUR COMRDES."



## MOTHER AND SON

### PAUL FRITZ



Paul Fritz

Paul Fritz was born December 18, 1924 in Lawrenceville, Illinois, and is the son of James A. and Jennie Fritz of Lansing, Illinois. He has a brother in the United States Navy who has already seen plenty of service, having had two ships torpedoed that he was on. If it is action that you crave you certainly get it when your ship is struck by a torpedo.

Paul received most of his education in the schools in Calumet City, Illinois. He enlisted December 15, 1940, and received his boot training at Great Lakes. After completing this training he boarded the U. S. S. Saratoga and remained on this vessel for a year. He was then transferred to the U. S. S. Joseph Hughes and from there to the Navy school at Norfolk, Virginia for three months. Then to the U. S. S. Harris, on which he is serving at the present time somewhere in the South Pacific area. He has had several promotions and at the present time his rating is a Coxswain.

Both boys are members of the Edward H. Larsen Post and their mother is a member of the Auxiliary of the Post. Their father served in the United States Army for 17 years, but

never left the continental bounds of the United States during a war period.

### MRS. JENNIE FRITZ



Mrs. Jennie Fritz

Mrs. Jennie Fritz was born November 19, 1888 at Columbus, Ohio, and was the daughter of William and Clara Poole. Her brother Harvey lost his life in the First World War with the Canadian Army, having served three years before he lost his life, also another brother Jesse A. who served in the United States Navy.

She has three sons: Raymond T., James R. and Paul F. F. and one daughter, Denver C. Freeman of Columbus, Ohio. Her husband was just recently inducted into the United States Navy and is serving his boot training at Great Lakes at the present time.

Mrs. Fritz is a very active member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Edward H. Larsen Post, and at the present time holds the office of Conductress. She is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Post No. 330, Calumet City, Illinois, also was the Chaplin in this organization for the years 1942-43.

Mrs. Fritz ranks second in the sale of the first volume history books for the Larsen Post and the historian appreciates very much the assistance she has given.



## MOTHER AND SON



Mrs. Marie McGreevy and Perry Gusic

Perry Gusic was born July 1, 1920 in Hammond, Indiana, and received his education here, he is a graduate of Hammond high school. He has one brother Robert and two sisters Miss Louise Gusic and Mrs. Angie Lambrecht of Highland, Indiana.

He enlisted November 16, 1939 and has seen plenty of active service since that date. He has been decorated five times. The last, another air medal on October 25, 1943. His last rating is a Master Sgt. and at the present time he is stationed at Harlingen, Texas as an instructor in the gunnery school.

On page 119 of this book you will find an additional story appearing in the Hammond Times August 6, 1943. The half has not been told, he is too modest to talk about the thrilling experiences that he has had in the service, but if he did open up it would fill many pages of this book.

Yes his mother Mrs. Marie McGreevy is proud of him, and very grateful that he returned home safely. She is the daughter of Mitchell and Marie Peyovich of Cetyen, Montenegro now known as Yugoslavia. She came to this country in 1912 with her parents making

their home in Chicago, she was but eight years of age at that time.

She has four brothers: Christ Peyovich of Gary, Indiana, Louis of Chicago, Donald of Detroit, Michigan and Milo of Whiting, Indiana and one sister Ann who is still in Europe. She was married to Thomas McGreevy April 6, 1939 and at the present time they live at 242 Clinton street, Hammond, Indiana.

Mrs. McGreevy is a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Larsen Post. She sold four of the first volume History books at \$5.00 apiece and two of them at \$3.00. The Historian is very grateful to her for this service.

## DEDICATED

to

### OUR KITCHEN POLICE

*The women are working in the kitchen again tonight*

*Cooking for us men who in the last war did fight*

*They are the Ladies of the Ladies Auxiliary from Post 802*

*Some have daughters, sons and husbands in World War II*

*They sweat and cook in that kitchen to please all of us*

*But some of us just sit at the bar and drink and cuss*

*We can please them though if we all try*

*For in that kitchen they get mighty tired and dry*

*Cooking, cleaning, washing dishes for you and I.*

*The other night I got mad when I entered the place*

*One of our women was crying, tears were streaming down her face*

*Tell me his name I cried who is the bum*

*It's nothing she said just get me a shot of rum I did as she dried her eyes and brushed back her hair*

*And said I was peeling onions in there.*

—W.M. KROKOSKI

Chaplain, Post 802 V.F.W.



## MILLER BROTHERS

Pfc. Raymond Miller was born March 18, 1916 in Michigan City, Indiana and received his education in St. Mary's school in Michigan City, and St. Joseph and Hammond Tech. high school in Hammond.



Raymond Miller

He was inducted into the United States Army April 10, 1941 from Hammond, Indiana and went to Camp Shelby, Mississippi with the 135th Medical Division.

He left the east coast about March 1, 1942 and went to Australia. He was transferred from there about January 1, 1943 and sent to New Guinea and is still there at the present time — this date being February 12, 1944.

### LT. ALEX J. MILLER

Lt. Alex J. Miller was born August 24, 1919 in Michigan City, Indiana and received his education in St. Joseph and Catholic Central schools in Hammond. He enlisted January 14, 1941 in the 63rd Coast artillery at El Paso, Texas. He was transferred from there to Seattle, Washington. In February, 1942 he was transferred to the Army Air Corps and entered the Pilot training school.

On August 28, 1942 he was sent to Mont-



Lt. Alex J. Miller

gomery, Alabama for pre-flight training. As soon as he had finished this course he was sent to Sumpter South Carolina for his basic training, after finishing this course he was sent to Moultrie, Georgia for advanced training and received his wings there. He was then transferred to Venice, Florida for operational training, then to Blythe, California for Bomber Pilot training, and is now somewhere in the South Pacific area. Just as we went to press, his mother called and said Alex had been awarded the air medal February 15, 1944 for extra ordinary action against the enemy, somewhere in the Southwest Pacific.

These three boys are the sons of Alex and Marie Miller of 422 Detroit street, Hammond, Indiana. In addition to these three sons they have Edward, who is married and lives in Calumet City, Illinois, Roy and Robert who are still at home, and three daughters, Marie, and Rose Marie, and Mrs. Bernice Garner all of Hammond.

### rites Monday

Hammond Times, November 18, 1942

Military rites for Sgt. Chas. J. Miller, 27, of 422 Detroit street, Hammond, who was killed in an air crash at Columbia, S. C., last Sunday, will be held at 9 a. m., Monday in St. Joseph's church with Msgr. Francis Jansen, pastor, officiating, following short services





Sgt. Chas. J. Miller

at 8:30 a. m., in the Emmerling funeral home. Burial will be in St. Joseph's cemetery.

Sgt. Miller was an aeronautical engineer assigned to a bombing crew and had just won his wings when killed.

The body arrived in Hammond at 2 p. m., today and will lie at the funeral chapel.

Full military rites will be accorded the young officer, according to George Kunde, past commander of American Legion Post 16, who is chairman of military funerals of the post.

Pallbearers will be Legionnaires and a firing squad will come from Fort Sheridan, Ill., in addition to a bugler.

A brother, Alex Miller, an aviation cadet, has arrived home for the funeral, from Maxwell Field, Ala.

Sgt. Miller was born in Chicago March 14, 1915. He received his education in St. Mary's school in Michigan City, Indiana — St. Joseph and Catholic Central in Hammond.

#### SOLDIERS RECORD THOUGHTS IN POETRY

##### *Man's Inhumanity to Man*

The world began, Man was created  
And soon discovered He was fated,  
To better Himself by dint of skill  
To use His intellect to kill.

It all began with Cain and Abel  
And whether 'tis true or merely fable  
Exemplifies like nothing can,  
Man's inhumanity to Man!

The only species with a mind  
Is genus-homo, called Mankind.  
Free will, free thought, these attributes  
All are withheld from other brutes!

Though we are classed superior,  
Methinks we are inferior,  
The only species that is known  
That mass destroys its very own.

—Al Miller, Jr.

#### JAMES BROTHERS

Daniel P. James, Jr. was born April 6, 1923, in Hammond, Indiana and was educated in the Morton, and Hammond high schools and graduated from Hammond high in 1942.

They were the sons of Daniel and Margaret James who reside at 805 State street, Hammond, Indiana. Both of the boys are members of the Edward H. Larsen Post, their Grand-



Thomas L. James

mother known by every one as Mother Catherine James was a member of the Ladies Auxiliary and a Gold Star Mother of the Post.

Dan was inducted in the United States Army Air Corps, January 20, 1943 and re-



ceived his basic training at Miami, Florida, he received his gunnery training at Denver, Colorado, his flexible gunnery training at Fort Meyers, Florida, he was then sent to Salt Lake City, Boise, Idaho, Scotts Bluff, Nebraska and finally finished his training at Langley Field, Virginia.



Daniel P. James

He left the United States on December 13, 1943 for Brazil, then to Tunis, and Tunisia, Africa, and is now in Italy. He is a Sgt. in the 455th Bomber group the 741st Bomber Squadron, his serial number is 35580719. He is the first of the family to go into the service.

Thomas L. James was born on February 23, 1921 in Hammond, Indiana. He graduated from Hammond high school in 1938. He enlisted in the United States Army March 4, 1943 from Louisville, Kentucky and was sent to Fort Benjamin Harrison at Indianapolis, Indiana, then to Camp Meade at Baltimore, Maryland, then to Camp Nose at New Orleans, and left the United States about December 1, 1943 and sailed for England, and is still there.

He is a private first class in the 26th Special Service Company and his serial number is 35697816.

## GLENN N. GONDER



Glenn N. Gonder

Glenn N. Gonder was born May 28, 1917 in Michigan City, Indiana. He is the son of John and Adda Gonder who were born in Berrien County, Michigan. Glenn was reared on a farm and attended the grade and high school in Springfield township in La Porte County and graduated in 1935. He was president of the Freshman and Senior class in high school, and was very fond of athletics, basketball and baseball were his favorite sports.

After graduating in 1935 he went to work for the Allis-Chalmers Company in La Porte, Indiana. After working there for a while he decided to take a course in Embalming and



went to the Worsham College of Embalming in Chicago and graduated in June, 1939.

He served his apprenticeship with several large Funeral establishments in Chicago, and passed his State Board examination in Illinois, as a licensed Embalmer and Funeral Director in July, 1940. He came to Hammond, Indiana in May, 1941 and was employed by the Emmerling Funeral Chapel, where he remained until he went into the service of the United States Army.

On June 29, 1941 he was married to Miss Ermyl Alkire. She was a teacher in the LaPorte County school system.

On December 12, 1942 Glenn enlisted in the United States Army and was given the rating as Pfc. and a surgical technician in the 297th General Hospital Unit. This unit was composed of officers and enlisted men from the Cook County Hospital in Chicago. He reported for duty at Fort Sheridan, Illinois on December 21, 1942 — from there to the McCloskey General Hospital at Temple, Texas — which had a capacity of 3,000 beds — he arrived there on December 25th.

He received a furlough on May 1, 1943 for 12 days and he returned to Hammond and Michigan City for a visit with friends and relatives. When he returned to Camp he was promoted to Corporal. He is now in Camp Banning, California and holds the rating of Staff Sgt. His APO is 180 Los Angeles California ready for embarkation destination unknown.

## HAMMOND PILOT, FLYING TIGER

Hammond Times, January 20, 1944

Staff Sgt. Charles E. Edwards, 44 Detroit street, Hammond, a member of the famed "Flying Tigers" of the 14th air force, has been awarded the distinguished flying cross for heroism in action, it was announced today.

Award of the cross was made by Maj. Gen. Claire Chennault, commanding the 14th fighter squadron. The general also announced award of a purple heart decoration to Staff Sgt. Albert M. Keene, 29 Illinois street, Chicago Heights, Illinois.

## SOLDIER WRITES FROM A JAP PRISON CAMP

Hammond Times, March 5, 1943

A Christmas and New Year greeting written in October and received only recently was the fate of the letter written to Stanley Linkewicz, 666 Hirsch street, Calumet City, by Leonard S. Kozlowski, who is a prisoner of war in Zentzuji, Japan.

The son of Mrs. Mary Kozlowski, 320 — 154th place, Calumet City, he says in the



Leonard S. Kozlowski

letter to Linkewicz that he had written home but had received no answer.

"How are things back home — still operating?" Kozlowski inquires in the letter. "The time passes moderately fast, although it doesn't keep my hair from turning grey. My mind flashes back over thousands of miles and brings back pleasant memories of the past that helps to keep my morale up and helps me to look forward to returning back home.

"Well, Stan, say hello to all my friends, and while I have the opportunity I'll wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. God bless you all and keep you happy."

The letter was written October 20 at the war prison camp and was sent through the International Red Cross organization.



## *Pair Now Listed Missing Had Narrow Escape*

Hammond Times, March 3, 1944

A Hammond and an East Chicago airman, recently reported as missing in action, had a thrilling battle with German planes as their crippled Flying Fortress limped back to England in a mission prior to the flight from which they failed to return.



Sgt. Joseph Mikisch

The two are Sgt. Joseph Miksich, Hammond, and Sgt. August J. Lobonc, East Chicago, and the story of the thrilling flight told by them and other crew members has been received by their relatives.

Sgt. Bill Nall of Texas, the right waist gunner, begins the story.

"In the scrap over Ludwigshafen (Germany), number four engine went and the prop wind-milled wildly. The old line went too, shooting oil all over the ship. The pilot couldn't feather the propeller due to lack of oil. We were forced out of formation. Five P-38's hovered around, protecting us, but soon they had to make for home to refuel."

"Then the fun began," interposed Nebraskan Sgt. John Fees, ball turret gunner. "Focke-Wulfs closed in. Oil from the bad engine number four flew back over my turret just then and I couldn't see a thing."

"Three 190s roared in on us," continued Sgt. Nall, "while two others stayed off to watch the slaughter. The main blow came from a swing around the tail and then a 5-o'clock level attack on my right waist spot. The first fighter started fire and I pumped 20 or 30 shells into him. He broke off then and passed under our Fort. When he did that, our tail gunner (Sgt. Joe Miksich, Hammond) let him have it. Joe only claims a probable though, because we were in clouds and couldn't see very well."

"I had a 7-o'clock high attack too," remarked Left Gunner Sgt. K. P. Majeski, Wisconsin, "but our evasive action was good. We made cloud cover before the Nazi could do damage."

The radio operator-gunner, East Chicagoan August Lobonc, chimed in: "We soon lost our cover of clouds. Pilot Lt. Don Sharpe of Maryland gave orders to stand by for a crash landing. We all thought we might have to come down in France the way that sick number four engine was acting up. We skimmed the tree-tops and could see people on the ground waving merrily at us as we went over."

Ball Turret Gunner Fees continued the story:

"I got out of my turret and went to the tail," he said. "Just before we got to the Seine river about 35 miles from the coast in the Rouen area light flak and machine gun fire came at us. The sky was full of tracers and flak burst all around us. We followed the river



out and at Le Havre we had some real excitement.

"In the port there," he went on, "we spotted a German cruiser and three destroyers. We saw their anti-aircraft fire begin and they gave us everything they had. The heavier short batteries struck up the music then too, and did they let loose! The tail was hit and flak tore us less than a foot from my knees. The nose was hit and the plexi-glass busted. The bomb-bays got a good dose and a 20 mm. tore up through the radio room just behind the radio gunner, Lobonc."

"I was on one knee, slushing in oil," put in Sgt. Lobonc, "sending out a message, and I looked out to see who in hell was doing all the shooting. The sky was black with smoke and full of fire from the guns. I got my nose in mighty quick, you can bet. Miksich was at the radio guns, so I went on with my message. I had a devil of a time though," Lobonc confessed, "for both pilots were making that ship dance and wiggle all over the place to avoid the ground and naval fire. They did a honey of a job. We didn't get one serious hit. But I was slogging around on that slippery oil, my head hitting the top many times, until I thought the pilots had gone screwy."

Sgt. Lobonc continued: "We were still set to ditch in the English channel. It looked three times wider than it was. Over the interphones I heard the top turret man (Sgt. Ed Dutsch, New York) call out to the pilot, 'What's this we're crossing — the Atlantic ocean?' The pilot then quipped right back, 'Non-stop to New York, boys!'"

A fighter followed their bomber half-way across the channel at 15,000 feet. The Fortress' wing tips almost slapped the waves and they were too low to identify the distant plane as friend or foe. Just as they were about to land in an English sheep pasture another motor went out — no gass.

"We started down — wheels up," Sgt. Fees said. "The pilot ordered everyone to the radio room for the landing and we came in as

smooth as could be. We skidded about 200 yards and wound up in a shallow pond which the pilot (Lt. T. P. Sheedy, 21, Ohio) didn't see because it was hidden by grass around the edges.

"When we hit the pond the nose buckled and the radio room caved in. The bombardier (Lt. O. D. Curley, Texas) got a slightly sprained back. Thanks to him we were all in correct ditching positions or we would have been hurt worse when the ship buckled like that."

Sgt. Lobonc put in, "Miksich got his leg caught just above the ankle when the radio room caved in, and Fees jerked like blazes to get it out. He's all right though, nothing serious, and he isn't even limping."

Only a little while after they landed, a half-dozen ambulances rolled up from a British base nearby. "A group of women in blue and gray uniforms were everywhere," reported Sgt. Nalls, "serving tea, and caring for us. They took Lt. Curley and me to the hospital, bathed us, gave us clean pajamas, put us to bed and then served us supper."

"The rest of us went to a British camp," said Lobonc, "where they took good care of us. The British troops were all hospitality."

S/Sgt. August J. Lobonc, before entering the air corps, lived at 534 Emlyn place, East Chicago, graduated from Roosevelt high school and was an employe at Youngstown Sheet and Tube company. S/Sgt. Joseph Miksich lived at 7349 Parrish avenue, Hammond. He came originally from North Lima, O., but lived with his brother in Hammond for three years before joining the service. He was employed at General American Transportation company.

Although the two men are officially reported missing, it is believed unofficially that they are prisoners of war in Germany at present.

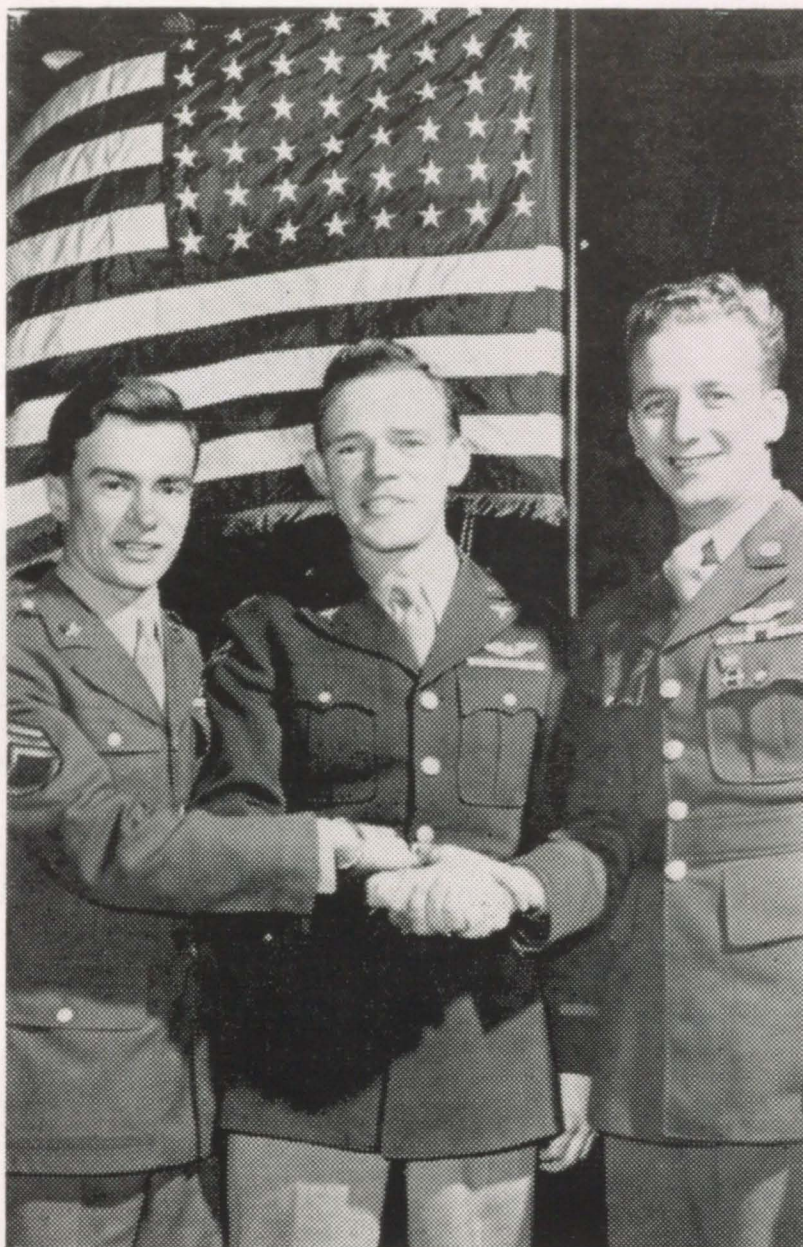


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# They Spurred Bond Drive in Steel Plant

Hammond Times, January 31, 1944

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They weren't smiling like this when the Japs saw them!

Heroes all, this trio is pictured after addressing workers at the Gary Sheet and Tin mill of the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corp. on behalf of the fourth war loan drive. Left to right they are Staff Sgt. John A. Stachowicz, 26, of 634 Forsythe avenue, Calumet City; Capt. Bernard O'Hara, 27, of Michigan City

and Staff Sgt. Charles E. Edwards, 218 Williams street, Hammond.

O'Hara, ably assisted by his two Calumet region sergeants, commanded the famed "Doodlebug," Liberator bombing plane of the Flying Tigers in China. The fliers, awarded distinguished flying crosses, are credited with downing 10 Jap Zero planes and 18 probables in one engagement.



## DICK WHITE IN ENGLAND



R. J. White

Hammond Times, January 26, 1944

Recently promoted to the rank of technical sergeant, Richard J. White is serving somewhere in England with the chemical warfare division of the army air corps.

T/Sgt. White is the husband of Mrs. Lucille White, now living with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. Bogard, 240 Locust street, Hammond, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred G. White, 250 Dyer boulevard, Hammond.

Dick is a well-known boy around the region, as are his brothers, three of whom are also in the armed services. They are Charles, in Seattle, Wash.; Bob, an air cadet-to-be at Douglas, Ariz.; Albert, an air cadet in Lancaster, Calif, taking his basic.

Dick has met several Hammond servicemen in England, among them his old golf partner, Eddie Kobeske. Sgt. White thinks the European theater of operations is the best place for him; "... it brings me luck and I like it very much," wrote White.

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### RAISED TO SGT. RANK

Hammond Times, January 26, 1944

Dr. and Mrs. Robert East, Hammond, have heard the news that their son, Charles R. Hovey is now a sergeant in the medical corps. The new sergeant is at his post somewhere in Australia, where he received his promotion.

## BACK AT FRONT AFTER TARAWA



D. Bianchi

Hammond Times, January 20, 1944

A star football player learns to do a lot of things and when he joins the U. S. marines he learns a lot more — how to write a letter with a smashed right thumb, for instance.

From the south Pacific today came a letter to his parents from Dominic Bianchi, former captain of the Roosevelt high school, East Chicago, football team and all-conference star. His thumb was injured in the recent fighting at Tarawa, but he is now back in action.

Bianchi, 20, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bianchi of 4742 Tod avenue. Graduating from Roosevelt high, he went overseas last March.

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### ODENBERG SERVES "DOWN UNDER"



Cpl. Oldenberg

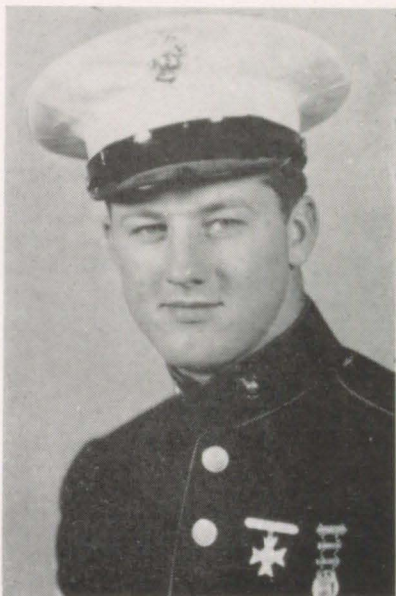
Hammond Times, January 26, 1944

Attached to the quartermaster company, Cpl. Donald J. Oldenberg, husband of Mrs. Mary Oldenberg of 856 Plummer street, Hammond, has been overseas for two months now.

Cpl. Oldenberg arrived at his south Pacific post in November. He joined the army last Jan. 16. Previous to discarding civvies for the Uncle Sam uniform, he was employed at Super Heater corporation.



## BLAEMIRE BROTHERS



Robert Blaemire

Robert and Dick Blaemire are the sons of Robert and Sue Blaemire of Hammond, Indiana.

Robert was born April 13, 1924, in Fort Pierce, Florida. He received his education in the schools of Hammond and graduated from Hammond High School in 1943. He was quite a football player while attending Hammond High School.

He enlisted in the United States Marines August 7, 1943 from Hammond, Indiana. He was sent to Camp Pendleton, San Diego, California. He sailed for over-seas duty Jan. 1, 1944. He is in Company C. Amphibious Tank Corp and had his first engagement with the enemy on the Marshall Islands.

These boys are the grand sons of Mother Catherine James who was one of the Gold Star Mothers and a charter member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Larsen Post. Mother James made her home with her daughter Mrs. Sue Blaemire before she passed away.

Dick Blaemire was born August 26, 1906 in Hammond, Indiana. He graduated from Hammond High School in 1924. He was employed by the Youngstown Sheet and Tube

Company in East Chicago before he enlisted in the United States Army.

He enlisted in the United States Army engineers, April 27, 1943. At the present time he holds the rating of a Sergeant, and is stationed somewhere in England. His serial number is 35139550.



Dick Blaemire and wife

He was married to Lucille Bartoszek who is the daughter of Anthony and Margaret Bartoszek of Hammond, Indiana. While Dick was stationed at Fort Louis Washington, his wife was also stationed in the Camp and she worked as a telephone operator. Dick sailed for England December 27, 1943.

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### DON'T DISAPPOINT HIM

Hoping for lots of mail, Hugh Wantland sends New Year's greetings from New Guinea and his address: HQ Btry. 98 FA Bn., APO 929, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.

He is the son of Mrs. Rae Wantland, 3409 Grand boulevard, Indiana Harbor, and serves with the field artillery on a far-off Pacific isle.



March 3, 1944, Australia



Robert E. Rogers

Robert Elwood Rogers was born December 3, 1921 in Hammond, Indiana. He was the son of Marcus and Josephine Rogers. He attended the Maywood and All Saints grade schools and Hammond High School.

Before he was inducted in the United States Army he was employed by the I.H.B.—New York Central Railroad. Due to his occupational experience, with a Sergeant-Technician rating in the 715th. Railway Operating Battalion.

He was inducted at Fort Sheridan Illinois on October 27th, 1942, and received his training at Camp Claibourne and Camp Shelby Mississippi. He sailed for over-seas duty in April 1943, and is now located somewhere in Italy.

His serial number is 16144370, and is in Company C. 715th Railway Operating Battalion. These boys are doing a wonderful job in keeping our transportation system moving.

Dear Friend John:

Just received your nice letter of Dec. 18, 1943. I was more than pleased to hear from you and trust that this letter finds you, Mrs. Blume and yours well and happy.

John, I have so many things to thank you and the fellows for that I hardly know just where to begin, so being the kind of a bird that likes his pie first, I will not side track the issue now and will start off by thanking all of you from the bottom of my heart for the Hammond Times. Boy, you will never know how much I enjoyed reading that old sheet. When I was home home I used to pick it up at night, and run through the headlines. It was then examined for Veteran's news—from there to "Chief Wa-hoo," then a quick look at "Voice of the People", questions and answers and by the time I was half through with John Whitaker's "Speculating in Sports" the old davenport would have the best of me, from where the wife and dog "Mickie" would wake me with a quart of ice cream to eat. Well I didn't have a davenport to lay on the other night. Perhaps that accounts for me staying up until 2:30 A.M. reading even the Want Ads. I received 14 copies. I filed them in order then read the Times, then sand fleas mosquitos and lizzards started in. I liked the two column editorial a lot. Is Harry Gallagher writing that? Say hello to him, Doc., Hidy, Larry, John and all the rest of the fellows there.

I received a swell box from the Post. It had just the things I needed most. Then the ladies sent me a Xmas card with our dollar G.I. bill in it. I supposed the Post has heard from some of the fellows regarding this. I wrote previously and thank them. I sent them 60 new members a few weeks ago. I have a few more to send soon. They are all from my Co. I have not, and will not ask anyone outside my Co. unless it be someone from the Calumet Region to join the Post. I realize the extra work piling on them. I hope they wil use the extra voting



it gives them, wisely, and will use it to put forward something worth-while from the Post 802. I have also signed in a bunch of members at large. We have elected a set of officers and hold "Bull Sessions" in the mess hall that help to pass the time.

I will not attempt to tell any of the war news. You, no doubt, know more than I can tell. These Japs are tough little bastards, but our boys are a little bit tougher and they are sure pushing them around.

These tropical nights are beautiful. It is hot as hell and it rains here about four months out of the year. Oh, well, you know what I mean—there isn't any place on earth like the States to me. It would be heaven right now, but I want it the right way and at peace, so until that time I prefer to carry on. I could have come home on the 38 year bill but decided to stick it out. I am alone, no dependents, and I feel I should stay. Who knows, I may get a chance to settle a matter of personal importance with a couple of these Nips, yet. The war isn't over and I hate their guts.

Well John while I am about the business of telling you what a wonderful guy I am, I must tell you this and then turn to more interesting news. I was awarded the good conduct medal the other day, so you see I have been a pretty good boy. Ahem!

My old buddy left for home not long ago and I miss him a lot. He was a grand fellow.

If I ever get any films, will send you guys a picture of me in my Zoot suit. We were paid the other day and a bunch of the boys were shooting craps here. I never last that long.

Thanks again for the letter and everything. It's getting late so I had better hit the sack. I will find out about those history books at our next bull session and let you know. I will have my niece mail you a check for mine. Say hello to everyone for me. I am fine. Thanks to you and Mrs. Blume for the Xmas card.

Yours,

JIM DUGAN

## HISTORIAN RECEIVES LETTER FROM A FRIEND OVERSEAS

March 8, 1944

Serial No. 35170061

Hello John:

Certainly a long time has passed since I last wrote you. A great many things have happened in the meantime. Of course you knew that I was in North Africa. I wrote you last when I was in England, from there I went to North Africa saw plenty of service there then to Italy and saw plenty more there, I am now back in North Africa.



Bob Reese

I was wounded in Italy on December 5 and was sent to a General Hospital in North Africa, which explains why I am here now. I was awarded the Purple Heart on December 28. My wounds were not so bad, I was confined to the bed for a few days. However, I am enjoying the beds with springs, sheets and mattresses, pajamas too. After 14 months sleeping on the ground and in a pup tent — they sure feel fine. Really surprising how a person appreciates the small things in life after



being away from them.

I was also promoted to Staff Sergeant in September, 1943, had been acting in the capacity of platoon sergeant since last April. I don't believe I told you that I was given that job during the fighting at Tobruk, North Africa.

Enough about me! What I really intended to do was to write you a letter of thanks.

Frankly I don't know for sure just who I am indebted to for that lovely Christmas package. Of course this letter is awfully late, but the package was late too, due to the fact that it had to pass through a number of channels before I finally received it. It arrived along with several other packages, and we all had a lovely, but late Christmas. I say, we, because the other fellows here in our ward thoroughly enjoyed them too. So you see you have all of our hearty "*Thank You's*" for a nice Christmas.

I thank you too for the membership in the V.F.W. I received the December issue of *Our Comrades* so please give my thanks to Post 802. If you will, please extend my thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary too. And let them know that I received their Christmas card and present.

I am enclosing a snap shot in this letter, it really doesn't amount to a whole lot, I hope you get a laugh out of it. I sure did and a hearty one too. As you see it is in P.J's. Incidentally I rode through Naples in a pair just like these, on a truck and no cover on it either. This picture was taken shortly after I was injured, and was the only clothes I had at the time. Again I say I hope you enjoy it, and be sure and let me know what you think of it.

All for now John, four pages is quite a letter for me. So I will sign off for now. Let me hear from you soon and I will be looking forward to your letter.

*Sincerely,*

BOB REESE

P.S.: Be sure and let me know how you like the picture. Ha' Ha'.

## ROBERT ULBRICH IS NOT 'SPOILED' BUT HE HELPED SPOIL THE NIP NAVY



R. Ulbrich

Hammond Times, February 4, 1944

"Robert is our only child, but he's not spoiled," remarked Mrs. Robert J. Ulbrich, speaking of her son, Robert Ulbrich, 2/c electrician petty officer and Pacific naval hero, who recently spent a leave at his home, 4915 Cedar avenue, in Hammond.

He saw the plane carrier, "Liscomb Bay" sunk off the Gilberts, took part in laying the barrage that flushed the Japanese from Kiska and engaged the Jap fleet at Santa Cruz, a British island southeast of the Solomons. Ulbrich told of this latter engagement.

"It was my first active assignment. I was on a battleship and we had gone to Pearl Harbor, then Fiji, then the New Hebrides. We made our first contact with the Japanese fleets at Santa Cruz. We couldn't see the Nips or their ships, it was so far away. We shelled 'em with our long-range guns. The Japs soon ran.

"In July of 1943 we transferred to the Aleutians. We laid down the heavy barrage



that chased the Japs out of Kiska. While we were on this mission, we contacted their fleet again and sent five of their ships down.

"Then we docked at a home port for repairs, and I had a 14-day leave. After that, though, we did not lose much time in getting back to action. Makin Island was our next hot spot, and we shelled that to smithereens. The Jap fleet had popped up again after that. It

was while we were patrolling the Gilbert Islands. We fought them for two days and nights, during which we saw the "Liscomb Bay" flat-top go down with many hands lost."

Ulbrich was educated in Hammond schools and enlisted in the navy ten days after Pearl Harbor. He took his boot training at Great Lakes and is now taking special engineering in electricity at Washington, D. C.

## 8-A Class at Columbia Buys Jeep

Hammond Times, January 31, 1944



"This is what you are sending to our boys in the armed forces," Coastguardsman George Kouzmanoff told pupils of grade 8-A at Columbia school as he showed them a jeep like the one to be purchased with their \$959.90 contribution for war stamps and bonds.

With a class enrollment of 25, the pupils' 100 per cent weekly stamp and bond purchases amount to \$22.40 more than the \$937.50 purchase price of a jeep.

Each week the portion of the jeep paid for was marked off in color on a large room chart and, on January 26, the pupils' last day at Columbia, their goal was reached.

Miss Marilyn Cadle, room chairman, is pictured behind the steering wheel of the jeep.

Kouzmanoff, whose home is in Bensonville, Ill., is assistant captain of port in the coast guard's East Chicago office.



## THE THREE JENS BROTHERS



Victor E. Jens

These boys are the sons of Herman H. and Florence Jens who reside at 911 Drackert street, Hammond, Indiana.

Victor E. Jens was born December 2, 1918 in Hammond, Indiana, and received his education in the schools here. He was quite a basketball player with Hammond high in 1936, and helped the team win many honors for the year.

Victor entered the service of the United States Army Air Corps February 17, 1942. He received his training in the following camps: Keesler Field, Mississippi, Fort Logan, Denver Colorado where he graduated from the Air Corps Tech. School — Barksdale Field — Harding Field in Louisiana.

He sailed for overseas duty in September, 1942, and the following month he went to North Africa, and served in that campaign from beginning to its end. He was a radio operator and gunner on a B-26 Bomber. He has completed his missions and is now grounded and doing administrative work. He is a Staff Sergeant and at the present time located in Sardina. He is with H. Q. 319th Bomber Group serial number 35258676.

Robert Jens was born September 10, 1920 in Hammond, Indiana, and received his education in the Hammond schools. He was one of the players of the Hammond high championship basketball team in 1937-1938.

He entered the United States Army Air Corps February 17, 1942 and went to St. Petersburg, Florida for his basic training — to Scott Field, Bellville, Illinois for his radio operators training — then to Boca Raton, Florida for a short period — then to Kansas City, Missouri to the Advanced Radio School and graduated there January 8, 1944 — then



Robert Jens

to Berry Field at Nashville, Tenn. for more advanced radio work — then to Reno, Nevada for Radio operational flying.

He has about completed his training and is ready for overseas duty, and is standing by for orders for his port of embarkation. He is in the Hq. & Hq. Sqdn. in the Reno Army Air Base Radio operator Air Transport Ferrying Command, rating a Cpl.

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William Jens born April 5, 1923 in Hammond, Indiana. He received his education in the Hammond schools, and was Drum Major



in the Hammond high band, and was a player in the championship Hammond high tennis team.

These boys are certainly a flying bunch, William too joined the United States Army Air Corps April 9, 1943 and received his training in the following camps: Maxwell



William F. Jens

Field at Montgomery, Alabama for his primary training — then to Georgia Air Service, Jackson, Tenn. — then to New Port Army Air Field New Port, Arkansas for his basic training — then to Stuttgart Army Air Base at Stuttgart, Arkansas, he graduated there January 7, 1944 and was sent to Chanute Field at Rantoul, Illinois for special four motored pilot training. His present rating is Second Lieutenant.

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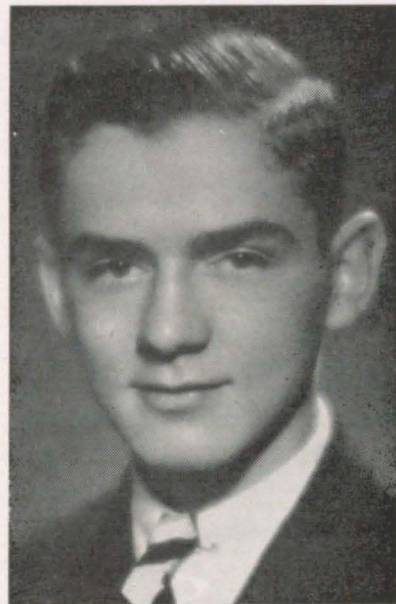
#### KENNETH R. ORR

Kenneth R. Orr was born June 18, 1921 and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Perry Orr of Hammond, Indiana who reside at 1017 Eaton

street. He is a graduate of Hammond high school, and has a brother who has seen plenty of service in the Southwest Pacific. He is one of the boys that went through the "Mile of Hell," Tarawa Atoll.

Kenneth was inducted into the United States Army October 28, 1942 and sailed for overseas duty December 1, 1942. While on maneuvers in Hawaii he fell from a cliff a distance of about 300 feet sustaining spine and skull fractures, also internal injuries.

He was in a hospital in Hawaii for about nine months, and then sent back to the States to the Ashburn General Hospital at McKinney, Texas. After being there several months



Kenneth Orr

he was transferred to the Gardiner General Hospital in Chicago. He received his honorable medical discharge here December 1, 1943. He is far from being well at the present time but his parents hope that in time he will be as well as when he entered the service in October, 1942.



## ZOLKES BROTHERS

They are the sons of Peter and May Zolkes of Hammond, Indiana. James M. Zolkes was born February 13, 1922 in East Chicago, Indiana. He was educated in the schools in Hammond.

He enlisted in the United States Army January 3, 1940 and went to Fort Slocum, N. Y. He was there 18 days and was sent to the Panama Canal Zone in detached service. His serial number was 15061281.

Jim certainly does not like the tropical climate, and after two years of service over there he was returned to the United States and



James M. Zolkes

was given an Honorable CDD discharge. He had Malaria fever while in Panama, which effected him to such an extent that he was no longer fit for military service. He received his discharge March 30, 1943. Nineteen days

after he returned home his father passed away, and was buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Hammond.

He was married to Miss Margie Schutz in 1944. She is the daughter of Nicholas and Ann Schutz of Calumet City, Illinois.

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Paul S. Zolkes was born August 16, 1919 in East Chicago, Indiana. He was inducted in the United States Army December 30, 1942



Paul Zolkes

and was sent to Fort Benjamin Harrison at Indianapolis, Indiana. From there he was sent to Camp Barkley, Clovis, New Mexico.

He is in the Army Air Corps and holds a rating of Pfc. His serial number is 150652082. On February 17, 1944 he sailed from New York places unknown. At the present time they have heard no further news from him.



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# Marine Praises Red Cross Work

Hammond Times, March 1, 1944

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Pfc. James P. McShane, home after a year in the south Pacific, watches while Mrs. Kermit French, Red Cross home service case worker, receives from Mayor Frank J. Migas of East Chicago the proclamation officially naming March as the month for the Red Cross war fund drive in the Twin Cities.

Although he praised all Red Cross services, Pfc. James P. McShane, 22-year-old marine paratrooper, particularly stressed the great benefits afforded by the organization's blood plasma service.

In his opinion, sending blood plasma to the various fighting fronts is their most important

function. Emphasizing the importance of having the precious plasma in sufficient quantities, he said:

"It is almost more important than ammunition. Send us plenty of both and we'll soon turn the victory dream into a reality."

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick McShane, the paratrooper, now home on a 30-day furlough, has been in service 18 months and overseas a year. He wears two campaign ribbons on his tunic, the American theater ribbon and the south Pacific ribbon. The latter bears one

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Continued on next page



star designating action in a major battle, Bougainville.

Modestly mentioning his participation in the Bougainville fight, McShane said of his 40 days there:

"We merely followed orders when our unit was told to occupy and hold a couple hills."

Discussing Red Cross services, the marine mentioned the organization's two big centers in New Caledonia, where he was stationed for about six months. At those centers, dances were planned for the servicemen, lunches were served, movies shown in an outdoor theater and a game room provided various forms of entertainment.

"The boys really appreciate the Red Cross services," he went on, "and there usually were lines of fellows waiting to get into the centers. They really are swell, chiefly because they give us some place to meet our friends and get away temporarily from the military routine."

Pointing out that food was very inexpensive at the centers, McShane said that in New Caledonia a small cup of coffee in a restaurant was 15 cents, while a large cup of coffee and two doughnuts could be purchased from the Red Cross for 5 cents.

McShane added that there are Red Cross centers near the airports throughout the islands and near the various theaters of action. In addition, some of the Seabee units have Red Cross field directors whose services are available to all the men.

The paratrooper's praise of the Seabees is unlimited.

"They really treated us right," he said, "and we think they are about the best outfits down there. They are doing their job better than almost anyone else."

He added that they can put a road through

a jungle "in less time than it takes to tell about it."

Speaking of the jungles, he said that the denseness of them makes parachuting impossible and turned paratroopers into infantrymen. Discovering that parachute troops were impractical for south Pacific fighting, the members of McShane's unit were sent back to the States for probable reassignment to other groups.

Asked what he missed most, McShane answered:

"Fresh milk. Powdered milk and powdered eggs got mighty tiresome and I had only two glasses of fresh milk all the time I was gone."

He stressed also the importance men overseas attach to letters and to pictures of anything that looks at all familiar.

The Twin City marine said that substantial cigaret cases and lighters are two of the fellows' greatest needs in the south Pacific. He explained that it is impossible to keep cigarets and matches dry. Lighting fluid, however, is not necessary because white gas is used for the lighters.

McShane's brother, Terry, is with the marine raiders in the south Pacific area and the two boys were together twice in New Caledonia. Their cousin, John Quinn, a staff sergeant in the marines, also was in the south Pacific, but, McShane said, "the grapevine didn't work so well when we tried to see him." Sgt. Quinn is at home now spending a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Quinn, 4136 Magoun avenue.

McShane was also a trackman at Roosevelt high school, will report to Camp Pendleton, Cal., at the end of his furlough.

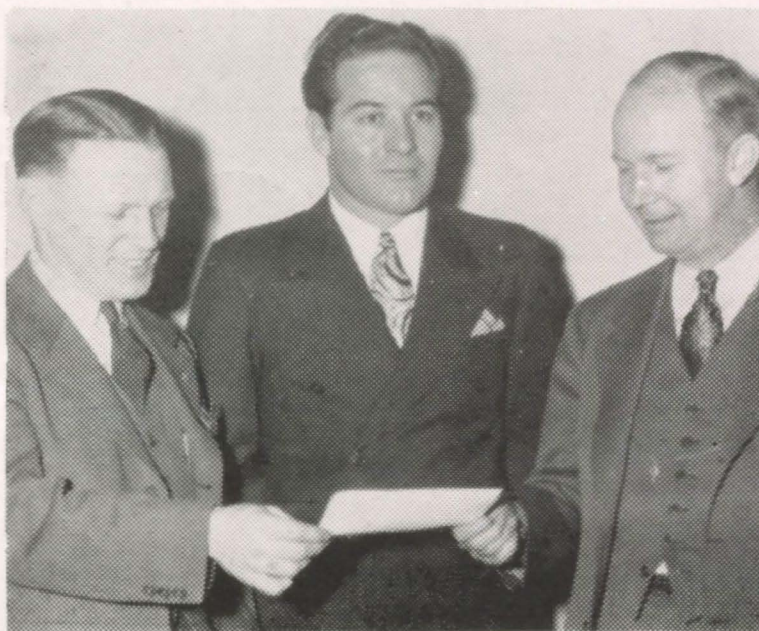


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## Service Center Gets Present

Hammond Times January 28, 1944

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As a feature of its first anniversary celebration, the Hammond Servicemen's Center received a check for \$1,150 from the Hammond Lions club to help maintain hospitality for members of the armed forces visiting here. The fund was raised at a benefit rassing

show staged recently. William Travis, left, chairman, is shown receiving the check from Gregory Lutz, Lions club show chairman, while Balk Estes, rassel show promoter, center, looks on. The center now has registered more than 7,000 servicemen-visitors.

### WOOLARD DOWN TO SEA

Hammond Times, February 2, 1944

Returned to sea duty after a 10-day leave, Walter R. Woolard, S 1/c, said a reluctant adieu to his wife, Mable, who lives at 5515



W. Woolard

Beall street, Hammond, his relatives and many friends.

Woolard has made many trips to war torn areas during the past six months, in which time he has earned his first class seaman rating assuming many varied duties. At present, he serves as helmsman.

Mrs. Mable Woolard, his wife, spent three months on the east coast where she visited him between his trips and waited for his most recent return so that they could come home together. His brother, Sgt. Tom Woolard, is with the coast artillery detachment in New Guinea.



## Phone Girls Get the Right Number

Hammond Times, February 2, 1944



The Illinois Bell Telephone Employees of the South Suburban Federal Credit Union has bought it share in the victory. Mrs. Lawrence Buckle, president of the Ladies Auxiliary V. F.W., Post 802, left, sold a \$1,500 series C, war bond to Mary Conway, treasurer of the Credit Union, right, while Karl Minas looked

on, witnessing the patriotic gesture of the Credit Union.

Mrs. Buckle made the sale from VFW bond booth in the Edward C. Minas and company store in Hammond. Women serving at the booth have sold \$25,000 worth of bonds thus far in the fourth war loan drive.

### S/Sgt. ZUVICH SAFE

February 23, 1944

Telling her of his safe arrival in New Guinea, S/Sgt. Anthony Zuvich cabled his wife, Katherine, Kennedy avenue, East Chicago recently.

S/Sgt. Zuvich, son of M. and Joseph Zuvich, 442 Vernon avenue, East Chicago, is a former employ of Carnegie tin mill department, Gary. A graduate of Washington high school, the staff "sarge" was inducted 20 months ago.

He is attached to 246th Port Co., 496 Port Battalion.



A. Zuvich



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## Former Region Man In England

Hammond Times, February 3, 1944

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*An Eighth AAF Bomber Command Station, England* — Chaplains serving heavy bombardment groups in the Eighth Air Force share some of the discomforts of their friends in the combat crews by rising with the dawn to bid the boys Godspeed at take-off time, and then returning to "sweat out" the return of the Flying Fortresses. These two chaplains, Capt. Aloysius M. Phillips (left) and Capt. Glen F. Teska, station themselves before an ambulance to watch the Forts coming back from Germany.

Chaplain Phillips is the brother of Mrs. Mary Phillips Lacher of 2604 Wabash street, Michigan City, Ind. He was formerly assistant pastor of St. Jude's Church, Fort Wayne, Ind., St. Joseph's church, Hammond, Ind.; and the Sacred Heart church at Whiting, Ind. He attended St. Meinard's Seminary, near Indianapolis.

Chaplain Teska, before joining the service, was pastor of the Methodist church at LeCenter, Minn.

### GORA WRITES FROM NAZI CAMP

Hammond Times, February 23, 1944

"Time passes slowly," writes Sidney Gora from a prison camp in Germany, "but it isn't so rough." Gora is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Gora, 4331 State Line Avenue, Hammond. Captured in Italy, he has been a war prisoner for a year. Two years ago he joined

the infantry.

In his card, Gora wrote he hadn't received any mail but was expecting it shortly. The card was dated Dec. 3, 1943, postmarked Dec. 18 in Germany and was received by the Hammond post office Feb. 15, 1944.



## TOTH BROS. ON FURLOUGH

Hammond Times, January 28, 1944



John and Paul Toth

Both graduates of Washington high school, John and Paul Toth, sons of Mrs. Barbra Nemeth, of 4439 Kennedy avenue, East Chicago, have left their respective stations after furloughs at home.

John, a corporal in the infantry, has been in service for more than three years and has been in Alaska and the Aleutian islands.

Paul, who has been with the army air corps for 11 months, is stationed at Tallahassee, Fla.

Their brother, Nick, was killed last November in an automobile accident.

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### PAUL E. PETERS

Paul E. Peters the son of William and Meta Peters of Round Lake, Illinois, entered the service of the United States Army, April 17, 1942. He was sent to Fort Benjamin Harrison, then to New Orleans, then to his port of embarkation, San Francisco, California.

He was in the battle of Munda, one of the

major battles fought so far in the south west Pacific. He is in the 103rd Field Artillery Battalion Battery C. manning one of those Howitzer guns. His serial number is 353524-43.



Paul E. Peters

He sailed for over-seas service October 1, 1942. Before he entered the service he was employed by his brother who owns and operates the well-known Calumet Engraving Company. located at 422 Plummer St. This is the firm that made all of the cuts for this history book.

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## ON DUTY IN THE PACIFIC

Hammond Times, February 20, 1944

The family of Pfc. Kenneth J. Hoover, 6415 Marshall avenue, Hessville, got word recently that he had arrived safely on a South Pacific island.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hoover, and has two sisters living at home, Rita and Constance.

Kenneth graduated from Hammond Tech in 1942, joined the army in Feb. 1943, and is now serving with the engineers of the army air forces.

Pfc. Hoover received his basic training at Jefferson Barracks, Mo. and his advanced courses at Franklin Technical institute, Boston, Mass.



## *Vet of 25 Raids Over Europe Home*

Hammond Times, January 12, 1944

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Lt. Bohny

The distinguished flying cross and the air medal with three oak leaf clusters that adorn the chest of First Lt. Richard Bohny means that he has completed 25 bombing missions over Europe. The decorations do not begin to tell half the story of the exploits that begin to earn him the medals and a trip home.

Lt. Bohny began his forays into German held Europe as a co-pilot of a Flying Fortress and went on to become the leader of his ship. His boys sank submarines, downed 13 Nazi fighter planes, took part in the greatest American air assault on a German city, were downed by anti-aircraft fire and crash landed in the North sea, and other times bailed out over

England, engaged in aerial combat with the yellow-nosed German planes, mark of Goering's favorite squadron.

At home on furlough, the stories he tells held spellbound his four brothers who are too young for service, his two sisters, his father and mother.

It began in England when he went on his first mission as a co-pilot of a Flying Fortress. Nothing remarkable, except that it was his first combat flight and all went well for plane and crew. More raids followed. The submarine pens at Kiel where flak and fighter planes made a steel wall to repel raiders was the place where the first surface ships fell victims of his bombardier.

Shortly after Lt. Bohny said he and the others of his squadron were living on borrowed time. The great raid at Schweinfurt—60 American bombers failed to return. His ship was shot up but made it home. The average casualties for any bomber group is five percent and his men used up that percentage. The other missions to follow placed the airmen "In God's hands."

A 10-hour session in the North sea was an experience he will never forget. It happened after a raid on Bremen.

"We had lost one engine just before we hit the target and another when flak hit a gasoline tank and an engine. Into the target we rode and with bombs away, we headed for home, each of us praying.

"The flight home was hell! We lost the formation and the enemy fighters tried to down us. Our gunners disposed of two. We did not notice the gasoline leak until the engines quit about thirty miles from the English coast. The



crew stood by for a crash landing and we brought the ship down on the water. We got a life raft out and in less than a minute and a half, the plane nosed under the water.

"Two of the men couldn't make the raft and they were washed away. For hours we tried to reach the shore. Rocket signals failed to attract friendly planes that flew over head. Finally an English patrol plane found us and took us aboard, but the load was too much and the best it could do was to taxi on the surface until another plane was located to bring us to land. We were a sitting duck for any German that might have come along."

Lt. Boheny has another tale to tell. Returning from another raid, the plane barely reached England when he knew that to bring the ship to the home airport would mean endangering other planes. He decided to abandon the ship.

"We circled near the coast, set the automatic pilot, headed the ship for Germany and jumped." The Caterpillar club of forced parachutists made him a member for that exploit.

On one mission the Lt. served as a tail gunner.

"That was great sport," he said. I did not feel like a clay pigeon, the way all pilots feel on a run. This time I had a gun in my hands and believe me that was a pleasure. And I had my chance, too. I don't know that I downed anything but I do know two of the enemy took aboard some of the bullets.

"The German pilots are good," he continued, "but we still top them. They come in on formation at 12 o'clock and sometimes they come so close we instinctively duck our heads. The Goering squadron is no better than the rest."

The life of an airman is not without its lighter side. A story he tells concerns a new man, a gunner, on his first mission. He spotted an enemy plane coming into the formation and yelled fighter, fighter, fighter!" The other crewmen looked about, failing to see anything one shouted through the comm-

unication system, "what time time?" "Right now!" the novice replied.

A friendly rivalry exists between Fortress men and the Liberator men. The big ship is called a "flying boxcar," and the fortress a "big — bird."

Capt. Clark Gable was a member of Lt. Boheny's formation and the former Schererville high school athlete said he is a regular fellow." He is one of the men and is accepted that way. No one gives it a second thought that he was a celebrity. He does his job and well too.

The lieutenant's last flight consisted of a trip over Paris. The target was obscured by clouds, so the planes put about and with full bomb loads, returned home. After that it was New York and for the first time since last April, he saw a city with lights, automobiles in great numbers and gay street scenes. "I did not sleep the first night in the U. S.," he admitted.

Lt. Boheny summed up the attitude of the bomber crews by saying:

"When we start with the bomb bays full and the gunbelts loaded, it's for Uncle Sam that we head for the target. The best feeling in the world is when we are over the target. The plane jumps, meaning the bombs left the plane and the bombardier calls "bombs away." Then it's for our parents that we wing our way back to our base."

Lt. Bohney found a Christmas tree, with all the decorations, in his home at 12 Joliet road, Schererville. His mother and father Catherine and William, an inspector for the Pennsylvania railroad, said the tree was put up for their son. Younger brothers, Billy 18 who expects to be called to the army soon; Paul 13, Jack 11, and Kenneth 10, never tire of hearing the airman tell of his adventures. Two sisters Bertha and Rosella, also were anxious listeners.

Three other brothers in the service are yet to be heard from. They are Edward A., 24, stationed at Buffalo, N. Y.; Victor 22, some-



where in England, and Cyril, 21, at Camp Lee, Va. Lt. Bohney met Cpl. Victor while in England and "we gave England a high coat of pink."

Mrs. Bohney said "it takes a great deal of praying to keep our boys safe, but we will never end our prayers until they all are home again."

## *Hammond Soldier Gets Jap Flag*



No, it isn't a laundry check with a hole in it. It's a Japanese flag. The lettering at the top is Nip for "good luck," and brought anything but good luck to its former owner when it was found by Sgt. Bill Wopcik, right, who took it from a dead enemy soldier at Munda. The names radiating from the center are the

Jap's former regimental buddies. At the left stands A. P. Koval, 4548 Hickory street, Hammond, who served with the marine in France in World war I. Wocjik og 4914 Magoun avenue, East Chicago, is just back from service with the 169th infantry in the South Pacific.



## COUSINS PROMOTED

Hammond Times, February 18, 1944



L. Kornas

Word was received here recently that two cousins serving in the navy have received promotions. Leonard Kornas was made a boatswain's mate petty officer 2/c while serving in the southwest Pacific. He has been there 16 months. He said he has visited in Pearl Harbor, Australia, New Calidonia and New Guinea. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Kornas, 4338 Sheffield Avenue, Hammond.

Edward Gora was promoted to a machinist's mate petty officer 2/c at Teburon, Cal. He has been in the navy for five months and



E. Gora

is assigned to a floating dry dock. His parents are Mrs. and Mrs. Mike Gora, 4335 Sheffield avenue. Both boys took their boot training at Great Lakes. They are graduates of Hammond high school and worked at the Taylor Chain Company.

## DAD CRASH VICTIM



Hammond Times, February 25, 1944

Three draft-called fathers lost their lives in Tuesday's highway crash at Cook as they went, with 78 other selectees, for pre-induction physical examinations at Indianapolis. Above, Raymond Chambly, father of two, who died of his injuries late yesterday, holds his youngest child, Sandra Lee. One other father died instantly in the crash, involving two buses and a trailer-tractor, while the third died en route to a Gary hospital.

## BACK FROM SICILY, ITALY



P. Vukovich

Hammond Times, February 23, 1944

Returning from active duty in Sicily and Italy, Peter E. Vukovich S1/c, son of Mrs. J. Vukovich, 1123 Spruce street, Hammond, has been granted a 15-day leave which he spent at home. He is only 19, yet has seen two years' service.

A brother, John Vukovich, Jr., TM3/c, is serving with the fleet somewhere in the south Pacific.



## WANTS 20 MORE YEARS!

Hammond Times, February 23, 1944

Some of the boys may want to get back to civilian life when the war is over, but not F/1c Oliver Lee Loomis. He wants to stay in the navy for 20 years.

"It's a great life, and I'll never get fed up," the 19-year-old veteran said today while visit-



Oliver Loomis

ing the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Loomis of 4603 Henry avenue, Hammond.

Oliver is home on a two-weeks furlough after fighting the Japs in the southwest Pacific. After serving on a destroyer escort he was transferred to a heavy destroyer and saw lots of action. While crossing the equator he was initiated into "the mysteries of the deep," victim of Father Neptune's shaving kit and all the rest. Returning to his base in San Francisco, he will be assigned to school for further training to qualify as third class machinist's mate.

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## HETRICK NOW IN SOUTH PACIFIC

Hammond Times, February 23, 1944

After a spell in the Hawaiian islands, T/4 Robert P. Hetrick has been transferred to a base somewhere in the south Pacific. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Hetrick, 3820 Grand boulevard, East Chicago. He graduated from



R. Hetrick

Washington high school and attended Indiana university, then worked at Inland Steel before entering the army in September, 1942.

Many requests for his address have been received by T/4 Hetrick's family, so here it is. ASN 35561270, 285th Ordnance Co., (M M.) APO 957, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.

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## FOUST SAILS SW PACIFIC

Hammond Times, February 23, 1944



K. Foust

On the ocean blue somewhere in the lower left corner of the Pacific, James L. Foust S1/c, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Foust, 726 Spruce street, Hammond, has been in the navy since last August.

Seaman Jim worked at Pullman Standard before his enlistment, and his duties at the steel plant were those of inspector. He is a brother of S/Sgt. Kermit Foust, serving in Topeka, Kas.



## CROWN POINT BOY CITED



C. White

Hammond Times, February 24, 1944

Fifth army headquarters has announced the commendation for bravery of Pfc. Clifford V. White, serving in Italy. White is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bert White, Hammond. During a three-day battle, White, a company orderly, volunteered to lay and help maintain front line communications.

For three nights and two days of intensive fighting, these lines were broken 30 times and more by artillery shells and each time Pfc. White, frequently alone, would go out under fire to trace the line and repair it.

Despite the mountainous terrain and the long period of duty, White remained at his voluntary post until the company was relieved. The citation reads, in part: "Pfc. White's courage, physical stamina and bravery reflect great credit upon himself and the U. S. armed forces."

White's parents just moved from Crown Point to 4729 Sheffield avenue, Hammond.

## OHLENDORF NEW CORPORAL

Hammond Times, February 29, 1944

Harold C. Ohlendorf, 25-year-old former employe of the Standard Equipment and Supply corporation of Hammond, sported his new corporal's stripes during a visit this week with his sister, Mrs. John C. Meyer, 5653 Sohl avenue, Hammond.

Cpl. Ohlendorf came home to a belated Dec. 25 party. His sister kept the Christmas tree up because she knew he was to arrive



H. Ohlendorf

about Feb. 1, his first furlough since entering service June 17, 1941. He was stationed at Kodiak, Alaska, since October of 1941 and is ordered to report back to the Alaskan base March 8.

## WINFORD GOURLEY, PARATROOPER, HELD AS NAZI'S CAPTIVE



W. Gourley

Hammond Times, February 18, 1944

Pvt. Winford P. Gourley, 20-year-old paratrooper, is a prisoner of the German government, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Pressley Gourley, 2613 Spruce street, Hessville, learned recently.

The telegram from the war department said he was taken prisoner in Italy.

A former student at Morton Junior high school, Gourley has been in service about 22 months and has been overseas for almost a year.

He received his training in the United States at Ft. Benning, Ga., Camp Walters, Tex., and Fort Bragg, N. C.



## Missionary Blames England

Hammond Times, February 24, 1944



John Baker, Hammond Kiwanis Club President,  
and Miss Olive Dunn

Hammond Kiwanians were told British policy in India is to "divide and rule" at a luncheon meeting yesterday by Miss Olive Dunn of South Bend, for 22 years a missionary in India for the Methodist church.

A sister of Ralph Dunn, Hammond business man, she has another brother who is a war correspondent for Columbia Broadcasting System.

She accused the English in her address of promoting ill feeling in the cities between the

two main religious groups of India — Hindu and Mohammedan. Members of both sects in the villages which contain 90 per cent of the population live in harmony, she declared.

She said the rulers control all key positions in the government and army and control all the guns. The air force and tank corps have white personnel, and she cited the fact that the country, with 289,000,000 population is controlled by 2,500 Englishmen.

India, though rich in raw materials, has an estimated 240 million persons starving, Miss Dunn declared. The life span of the average Indian is 27 years. The average income is \$23 a year, yet some of the richest men in the world live in India. They are the rajahs.

The Indians wished to wage war on the Japanese, but the English viceroy did not consult the people when war was declared. They want to take part in the new world, she said. They are fighting for independence while 8,000 of the leaders are in jail.

The British do not mistreat the Indians, but consider them inferior, she declared. Only four cents per person per year is spent on education by white rulers. Tax money is spent on the army and governmental offices, Miss Dunn said.

The native government workers number 500,000. The jobs they hold are minor. The defense and foreign policies are made by the English. The jailed Gandhi exerts great influence on the populace.

Though India makes up three-fourths of the population of the British empire, they pay no tribute to the home government. The rulers advocate a motto for the Indians—"Be loyal to your employers" she said. Rewards for loyalty are titles given by the English.



## *Where's My Camera ? Bushemi's Last Words*

Hammond Times, March 1, 1944



Staff Sgt. John A. Bushemi

Staff Sgt. John A. Bushemi of 3500 Connecticut avenue, Gary, Ind., Yank magazine photographer and formerly Gary Post-Tribune cameraman, was killed in action today at the height of the battle for this island.

He was felled by a mortar blast which painfully wounded Capt. Waldo Drake of Los Angeles, Pacific fleet public relations chief, and scratched Harold Smith, Chicago Tribune correspondent.

The slight, dark-haired Bushemi, a veteran of five Pacific campaigns, was the eighth correspondent to die in this theater and the second on Eniwetok atoll. Columnist Raymond Clapper was killed in an airplane collision over the atoll a fortnight ago.

The Yank photographer was with a group of correspondents approaching the front lines who suddenly became a target for Japanese knee mortars fired from trenches less than 100 yards away. Shrapnel cut an artery in Bushemi's head and mangled his right leg. He lived less than three hours.

### *Helmet Deflects Shrapnel*

Drake's life probably was saved when the shrapnel was deflected by his helmet. He suffered a deep gash over his right eye but despite the streaming blood he refused treatment of his own wounds until the photographer was cared for. Smith's wound was superficial.

Bushemi, Drake and other correspondents were following the 106th army infantry regiment as it battled its way down this long, narrow island.

"We had moved in from the beach about 200 yards below the mid-island pier when the Japs spotted us and began firing with mortars," Drake said.

"The first shell hit a few yards away, the second was closer and we hit the dirt. Bushemi was beside me and the others were a few yards away.

"A shell got us. It crashed down in our midst and a fragment struck the front lip of my helmet, hurling me over backwards. The blood was spurting from my eyes but I could see Bushemi try to rise and then fall back to the ground.

"The blood from his head wound doused him and I thought he was hit in the stomach. I was afraid he was done for."

Smith and Staff Sgt. Merle Miller, of Mar-



shalltown, Ia., a Yank correspondent, led the stretcher bearers to the scene.

### *Where's My Camera*

Miller said Bushemi's first words after the explosion were: "Where's my camera?" He joked with Smith on the beachhead while awaiting transfer.

Members of the party escaping injury, besides Miller, included Hal O'Flaherty, Chicago Daily News; Sgt. Charles Rosecrans of Honolulu and Lt. Girhard Roth of Portland, Ore.,

both signal corps photographers, and Chief Petty Officer Joseph Dean of Bushemi's ship.

Bushemi was the first Yang staff correspondent to die in combat anywhere in the world and was one of the army magazine's most widely-published photographers. He covered the entire Kwajalein action and had filmed the Makin, Munda and Vella Lavella assaults. He came here at his own request.

He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Bushemi and before the war had been a photographer for the Gary Post-Tribune.

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THE FIRST OF WORLD WAR II VETERANS TO BECOME MEMBER OF THE  
EDWARD H. LARSEN POST.

## *Lt. Linkiewicz Hailed at Feast*

Hammond Times, February 6, 1944



C. Linkiewicz

Were muffled drums beating last night in the Phil Smidt and Son restaurant as Lt. Casimer E. Linkiewicz rose to receive a hero's acclaim?

Or was it the throbbing of hearts?

Casimer would be a hero in any man's town, and well the folks of Calumet City knew it when they tendered a public banquet to battle-scarred warrior back from fighting the Japs at Tarawa.

Tarawa wasn't the only place where Casimer made some of the enemy wish they had kept out of his way. It just happened to be at Tarawa that he got that Jap rifle bullet in his face, right under the left eye. That was the incident that led to his award of the Order of the Purple Heart by Adm. Nimitz. The hero wasn't wearing his Purple Heart. But his mother was. And she will keep right on wearing it — very close to her own heart.

It seemed most everybody in Calumet City was at Phil Smidt's last night to honor the young marine officer who brought such honor to the home town and such pride to his mother, Mrs. Pauline Linkiewicz, of 666 Hirsch street. His many friends and relatives were there, including his brother, Ensign Stanley Linkiewicz of the U. S. navy air corps.



Plant executives of the American Steel Foundries where he held a responsible job in the Indiana Harbor plant were present. City officials and members of the chamber of commerce and many Hammond business leaders attended. James Muchian, Calumet City postmaster, presided as toastmaster.

Nobody has yet written a book on Lt. Linkiewicz's career with the marines. And the officer is hardly the autobiography-writing type. But what a sizzle it would be, that saga of adventures and heroism!

Linkiewicz started as a buck private and was commissioned in the field last July 17.

Pull out that terrestrial globe and flex your fingers for a bit of twirling if you would follow Linkiewicz. All set? Begin then, in Indiana Harbor where he left a splendid position to answer the call of duty. That was on May 20, 1940. He enlisted in Co. C, of the marine reserve in Hammond. He went on active duty the following Nov. 8. He saw his first service in Iceland where he was stationed from May 30, 1941 to March 8, 1942. Then he came to America for six months before he left for the south Pacific where he was destined to serve for 16 months.

Then came the tough part — the fighting, the suffering, the exhaustion that the folks at home never will and never can appreciate no matter how hard they clap, how loud they cheer, how their hearts drum in pride, what nice things they say or how good a dinner they serve him at Phil Smidt's. But they did the best they could, and Casimer knew it, even though they couldn't wipe away that scar on his left cheek nor the deeper scar on the soul of every man that has been through hell.

The officer is on furlough now. But he is going back to a naval hospital in California to see what they can do about that injury the Jap rifle bullet inflicted last November 22 at Tarawa. Then what's he going to do? Back to his old job? Back where he can take things easy and maybe have some more banquets and tell the people all about what he did at Tarawa and other places? No. He's going right back

to the war zone for whatever fate holds in store. That's why Calumet City is proud. And that's why all the banquets and nice words at Phil Smidt's can't begin to tell how proud they are.

In the first edition of the V.F.W. History we quoted James R. Fritz as being the first World War II veteran to become a member of the Larsen Post. This is an error as it was Lt. Casimer Linkiewicz who was the first to become a member of Edward Larsen Post.

## SPENT 11 DAYS WITH WIFE

Hammond Times, February 24, 1944



H. Swiontek

Now back at Camp Peary, Va., Henry C. Swiontek, carpenter's mate 2/c, visited his wife, Mrs. Marie Swiontek, 1928 New York avenue, Whiting, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Casimir Swiontek, 4410 Towle avenue, Hammond, recently.

Petty Officer Swiontek is a brother-in-law of Sgt. Steve Chrustowski, former Hammond Times legman, who is now in Oahu, Hawaii. Swiontek is taking further training as member of the naval construction battalion (Seabees) in Virginia.



## GEORGE AJINOVICH OF WHITING DIES IN PACIFIC ACTION



Ajdinovich

Hammond Times, February 24, 1944

Two soldiers, one from Whiting and the other the brother of a Hammond woman, were listed by the war department today as killed in action. Pfc. George J. Ajdinovich, 26, son of Mr. and Mrs. Trivum Ajdinovich, 1535 — 121st street, Whiting, was killed Jan. 31 on Kwajalein atoll in the Marshall Islands, south Pacific.

Pvt. Robert M. Lakey, 26, brother of Mrs. Frank E. Balling, of 5253 Ann street, Hammond, was killed Jan. 28, in Italy.

Ajdinovich was inducted into the army Jan. 31, 1942. He received his basic training at Camp Wheeler, Ga., and went overseas last November and served in Hawaii before being sent to the Marshall. He graduated in 1937 from Whiting high school. He was a member of SS. Peter and Paul church and of the Croatian Fraternal union, Lodge 57 of Whiting. He formerly was employed by the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company in Indiana Harbor.

He is survived by his parents, by three sisters, Mrs. Frank Scibacic of Gary, Mrs. John Balog and Mrs. Stephen Hipka of Whiting; three brothers, John S. Ajdinovich of the U.S. coast guard, Sgt. Joseph with the army engineers in England and Peter of Whiting.

Lakey, a gunner in the field artillery, lived

in Ashland, Miss., where he is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Lakey. A brother, John, is a gunner in the navy while another brother, Albert, is in the army at Camp Pickett, Va.

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## DERMODY DOWN UNDER



M. V. Dermody

Hammond Times, March 1, 1944

Sea bees get around. They build things for a ubiquitous navy, and there's no telling where a member of the construction battalion will be next. For instance, "Mick" Dermody S1/c, writes from somewhere in the south Pacific: "Say hello to my friends at home. Although I'm too busy to answer letters soon as I get them, tell the gang to keep on writing."

Dermody is a graduate of Catholic Central high school, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. V. Dermody, 5641 Walter avenue, Hammond. He has served as sea bee nine and a half months.

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## TWEEDLES ARE BUSY

Hammond Times, January 2, 1944

The three sons of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Tweedle, Dyer boulevard, have their parents kept busy with their changes of addresses. Lt. Stanley A. Tweedle of the navy was transferred early in December from the south to San Diego, Calif.; Capt. Tom L. Tweedle has just finished a special army course at Washington and Lee University and returned to Camp Chaffee, Ark., and Robert Tweedle of the navy is on an island in the Pacific, where he has been in the front lines.



## THE NIEDENTHAL BROTHERS

Hammond Times, March 1, 1944



A. Niedenthal

The sons of Mr. and Mrs. W. Niedenthal, 5053 Baring avenue, East Chicago, have divided their affections equally among the armed services. M/Sgt. A. R. Niedenthal is in the army, while his brother, Fred, serves at sea as seaman first class in the navy.

Sgt. Niedenthal was recently promoted to master sergeant at Camp Howze, Tex. He attended St. Stanislaus school and St. Bonaventura college in Wisconsin, from which he graduated with high honors. He then went to Purdue university for further study. Then, after 12 years employment at East Chicago's



F. Niedenthal

First National bank, he was inducted into the army on April 11, 1941. In two months he received his corporal's stripes.

Fred Niedenthal, S1/c, graduated from St. Stanislaus and Roosevelt high schools. Continental steel foundry was his civilian employer, and he volunteered in the navy in De-

cember, 1942. After training at Great Lakes, Ill., he left for Staten Island, N. Y., from where he went for further training at sea as gunner's mate. Since then no word has been received of his whereabouts.

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## MADE CPL. IN ENGLAND



J. Szczygiel

Hammond Times, March 1, 1944

The Calumet City home folks of Cpl. John J. Szczygiel heard from him recently that he had been raised to that rank, stationed somewhere in England, after a year of training in the States. His basic training was taken at Fort Warren, Wyo., then automotive school in Colorado. On completion of training at a seven months' training at a quartermasters' school in California, he was sent overseas.

Cpl. Szczygiel writes he likes receiving The Hammond Times, and would also enjoy getting mail addressed to ASN 36620676, Co. B, 305th QM Ster. Bn., APO 409, c/o Postmaster, New York, N. Y. He worked for Hammond Screw Conveyor corporation before joining the forces Nov. 13, 1942.

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## TARAWA BATTLE OVER, HE CAN ANSWER LETTERS NOW

Hammond Times, Dec. 31, 1943

Pfc. Robert E. Helm, a marine fighter, can answer letters to his friends now. He explained in a letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Helm of 4607 Ash avenue. Hammond, he took time out to fight the battle of Tarawa. Helm a member of the marine force that invaded Guadalcanal, said his address is Co. L, 3rd Bn., 6th Marines, Cadet First Class Fleet Post Master, San Francisco, Calif.



## Sees Baby for First Time

Hammond Times, March 2, 1944



Pvt. Homer Eugene Taylor had to wait until he completed his basic training at Camp Wheeler, Ga., before he could see his son, David Eugene, who was born November 29, 1943. Now at home for seven days, Pvt. Taylor is making the most of his visit with his family, because he expects to be sent overseas soon and will have to store up many memories to recall when he is far distant. In the four-

generation picture, taken at the home of the soldier's mother, Mrs. G. R. Bixby, 588 Douglas avenue, Calumet City, are his grandmother, Mrs. Emma Hagan of Henderson, Ky., left; Mrs. Bixby and her grandson, center, and Pvt. Taylor. The baby and his mother are making their home with Mrs. Taylor's mother, Mrs. Nellie Price, 520 Plummer street, for the duration.

## HOME FROM SOUTH PACIFIC

Hammond Times, March 1, 1944



J. Maluga

Surprising his parents, Seaman 1/c John Maluga came home on a 30-day leave after serving for 16 very active months in the south Pacific area.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Maluga, 3905 Grand boulevard, East Chicago, who are mighty happy to have John home.

Seaman 1/c Maluga is a graduate of Washington high school in the class of 1941. Before entering the navy, he was employed at Sinclair refinery.



## DANNY AND TOMMY JAMES WRITE HOME

Hammond Times, January 20, 1944



Sgt. Daniel P. James

Letter from Tommy and Danny—and both the same week! Mr. and Mrs. Daniel James, of 805 State street, Hammond, were happy parents yesterday. Sgt. Daniel P. James, Jr., writes from north Africa, where he is an aerial gunner with the 741st bombing squadron. Pfc. Thomas L. James sends greeting from Britain where he is with the 26th special service company.

Both are graduates of Hammond high school, where Daniel was on the track team before he graduated in 1940. His brother graduated in 1938.

The sergeant's address is 35580719—455th Bomber Group, 471st Bombing Squadron, A PO 520 New York, N. Y., while Tommy may be reached at ASN 35697816—26th Special Service Co. APO 9031 New York, N. Y.

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## ARRIVES SAFELY OVERSEAS

Hammond Times, January 20, 1944

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Golding, 1535 Lake Street, Whiting, received word this week that their son, Cpl. Robert Golding, has arrived safely overseas with an air corps unit. He is now stationed somewhere in England.

Cpl. Golding has been trained to operate a gun turret in the B-24 Liberator bombers. A graduate of the George Rogers Clark high school and a former Standard Oil company employe, Golding enlisted in service, July 18,

1942, and received his preliminary training at Lowery Field, Denver, Colo. He was stationed



R. Golding

at Laredo, Tex., with a special replacement training detachment when he was assigned to overseas duty.

His sister, Corliss Golding, now a resident in the University of Chicago, and a younger brother James, lives at home with his parents.

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## NAVY RAISES ED IDZIK

Hammond Times, January 20, 1944



E. Idzik

Edward Idzik has informed friends of his recent promotion to seaman 1/c. Idzik has has the specialty rating of gunners mate.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Idzik, 4223 Olcott avenue, East Chicago. He received his basic training at Great Lakes and advanced schooling at Norfolk, Va., before going out to sea. He enlisted in December, 1942.

Roosevelt high was his alma mater, and he worked at American Steel. Letters will reach him if addressed USS PC 490, c/o Fleet P. O., New York, N.Y.



## WEARS SILVER BARS

Hammond Times, February, 3, 1944



D. Gavit

News of promotion to first lieutenant has been received in a cablegram from Donald E. Gavit, Jr., who is now piloting a Flying Fortress, "The Miss Donna Mae II," from an air field "somewhere in England." The cablegram was received by Lt. Gavit's wife who is making her home with Lt. Gavit's parents. Lt. Gavit has now participated in seven missions over occupied France and Germany and has been awarded the air medal. He wrote his parents that he was mailing them a piece of plexi-glass taken from the nose of his bomber which was shot out on a recent mission.

## BABCOCK SERVES ON DESTROYER

Hammond Times, January 28, 1944



W. Babcock

Billy's now on active duty on a U. S. des-

troyer," writes Mr. and Mrs. Charles Babcock, referring to their son GM 2/c William L. Babcock. The Babcocks live at 6545 McCook avenue, Hessville.

The young gunner's mate took his boot training at Great Lakes, followed by advanced schooling at Norfolk, Va. Then he went to Brooklyn to be assigned to his present duty.

Billy's address is William L. Babcock S2/c, Armed Guard, SS West Nilus, c/o Fleet Post Office, New York, N.Y.

## RANK BOOST FOR PHIPPS



J. T. PHIPPS

Hammond Times, January 20, 1944

While serving in one of the hottest places of the South Pacific, New Guinea, Cpl. James T. Phipps, Calumet regionite, was raised to that rank recently.

Phipps entered the army 18 months ago, and was employed by the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company, Indiana Harbor at their Mark plant.

The newly-made corporal lived, before joining up, at 3534 Parrish avenue, Indiana Harbor.



## DANCH RAISED TO J. G.



J. R. DANCH

Hammond Times, January 25, 1944

News reached here that John R. Danch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Danch, 6034 Wallace road, Hammond, has been promoted from ensign to lieutenant junior grade in the coast guard.

Lt. Danch graduated from Hammond high, Indiana University's school of business, and in 1942 completed Indiana U's Law school. He was admitted to the bar the same year, but immediately joined the coast guard.

Now serving in the southwest Pacific, Lt. John has a brother serving in army intelligence in this country.

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## MISS OHLSCHLAGER SERVES

Hammond Times, January 30, 1944

A carefully preserved memento of World War I will hang in the window of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ohlschlager, 733 Van Buren avenue, Hammond, when their daughter, Lavonne, reports soon for active duty in the army nurses corps.

The service flag to be used by the parents of the young nurse hung in the window of her grandmother's home in 1917 and '18 while her uncle, Mrs. Ohlschlager's brother, was making 18 round trips across the Atlantic on convoy duty with the United States navy.

Miss Ohlschlager, who has received her commission as a second lieutenant, is spending a few days at home while awaiting orders to report to Camp McCoy, Wis. The first member of her class to sign up as a member of the



Miss Ohlschlager

Red Cross student reserve a year ago, she is now among the first five to be called to active duty.

The eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ohlschlager, she has been working since graduation from nurses' school at Evangelical hospital in Chicago, where she received her training.

Lt. Ohlschlager's father served in the army in World War I and is now active in American Legion activities as a member of Hammond post No. 168.

Active in the Junior American Legion Auxiliary until entering nurses training, Miss Ohlschlager has been a member of the auxiliary unit No. 168 for the last nine years. She attended Lafayette school, Hammond Technical high school and Hammond high school, graduating from the latter in 1940, and is a member of the Immanuel Evangelical church.

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## CPL. JEFCHAK IS WOUNDED IN ITALY

Hammond Times, January, 30, 1944

Reported wounded in the Italian campaign on Jan. 2, Corporal John Jefchak, who has now been moved to north Africa for Hospitalization told his parents, in a letter received



just recently, that his leg injury was improving.

Cpl. Jefchak, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jefchak, 1016 Reese avenue, Whiting entered the infantry division of the



Cpl. Jefchak

U. S. armed forces in February, 1942. He was sent from Ft. Benjamin Harrison to Camp Blanding, Fla., and to Camp Edwards, Mass., and from there overseas.

Because of gallantry in action and for being wounded by the enemy, Cpl. Jefchak will be presented with Order of the Purple Heart.

He has one brother in service, Cpl. Joseph Jefchak, stationed at Camp Wood, Tex., and two other brothers and four sisters who live in Whiting, Ind.

#### AWAITS OVERSEAS DUTY

Hammond Times, October 31, 1943



R. J. Walsh

Cpl. Robert J. Walsh, son of Mr. E. Walsh, 4309 Torrence avenue, has completed his

training in aviation metalsmith courses at Norman, Okla., and is now in San Diego, Cal., waiting for orders to ship overseas.

Cpl. Walsh of the marine air division, enlisted January, 1943, and received his boot training at the San Diego marine base where he won the expert rifle shooting medal.

Bob graduated from Hammond Tech in 1942 and worked for the American Steel Foundries until enlisting.

His brother, William, of the navy, is on a nine-day leave at home after getting his "boot" at Great Lakes.

Cpl. Robert J. Walsh's address is USMC, ARS No. 1, Sec. 17, PEKS-6, MFAWC-MCAD, Miramar, San Diego 45, Cal.

#### SGT. CAMP IN INDIA



Sgt. N. J. Camp

Hammond Times, February 24, 1944

Sgt. Norman J. Camp did not have much to say about India in a letter received yesterday by his wife, Irma, who lives with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Orey Green, at 7209 Maryland avenue, Hammond. He had just arrived and didn't have much time. Camp and his wife both are graduates of Hammond high school. Camp was employed by the IHB railroad before enlisting. He received his training in New Orleans and Fort Wayne.

Mr. and Mrs. Green's son, Fl/c John Green is on a two-day naval leave. He has been on Atlantic transport duty and has made six trips to the other side.



**C. Tomczak**

Hammond Times, January 20, 1944

There are three Tomczak boys in service, and their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Casimer Tomczak, Sr., 3928 Main street, East Chicago, have reason to be proud.

For example, Pfc. Casimer, Jr., sustained a shrapnel wound in his left leg during the north African campaign. He now wears his Purple Heart and is already to go back for more, taking part in the fighting going on in Italy. In civilian life, Casimer worked at American Steel.

**A. Tomczak**

Then there's Cpl. Anthony Tomczak who won his bomber's wings at his Kansas training base. Before the war, Cpl. Anthony was employed at Inland Steel.

John Tomczak, S2/C, just finished Washington high school, East Chicago, and once traded his graduation cap for a topper. He is undergoing training on the high seas, studying to be a radioman.

**Bill Bos**

Hammond Times, January 28, 1944

S/Sgt. William "Bill" Bos, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bos of Bauer street, has been in England 10 months with the army air corps. He is connected with the Marauder squadron and has received the Distinguished Flying Cross and three oak leaf clusters in addition to the air medal for gallantry in action. Before enlisting in the air corps he was employed in Washington, D. C., for the government. At one time he worked for the Superheater. He enlisted immediately after the Pearl Harbor bombing.

### ANGELL GETS SICK FURLOUGH

**G. Angell**

Hammond Times, March 1, 1944

Injured severely in battle, Cpl. Gerald Angell, Jr., son of Mrs. G. Angell, Sr., 3514 Elm street, East Chicago, is home for three weeks to wind up his recuperative period. Angell whistles with relief when he thinks of how close was his escape from joining his namesakes in the celestial regions.

The youthful corporal was one of the first drafted from the Twin City to embark for overseas duty, months ago. Before that, he was trained for Inland Steel.



## SERGEANT SAM ORLICH MISSING IN ACTION



Sam Orlich

Hammond Times, March 6, 1944

When American planes zoomed triumphantly back from a raid Feb. 10 over north-west Germany, Tech. Sgt. Sam D. Orlich, former East Chicago boy, didn't come back with them.

And it was only last July, when, proudly wearing his recently won wings, he married Miss Lucia B. Turich of 1911 Broadway, Indiana Harbor

"Missing in action," said the war department message, received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Al Murphy, of 547 Burr street, Gary.

Sgt. Orlich, 25, was a graduate of Washington high school, East Chicago. He left his job with the Standard Oil company in Whiting to join the army air corps and trained at Burbank, Calif., gaining his wings last June at Kessler Field, Miss. He went overseas last June.

## SIEGEL MADE A SERGEANT

Hammond Times, January 28, 1944

According to latest word received from Cpl. Raymond J. Siegel by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Siegel, 2030 Lake Avenue, Whiting, his promotion to sergeant and a transfer from Camp Livingston, La. to parts

unknown came about simultaneously a few weeks ago. The new sergeant's address is now 152d Inf. Co., M, APO 38, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Cal.



R. J. Siegel

Sgt. Siegel who has been "in" three years, has trained at camps in Mississippi, Florida and Louisiana. Although he is strictly a beginner, he made top rank in his company bowling league recently.

## IN BRITISH ISLES



J. Mavronicles

Hammond Times, January 28, 1944

John Mavronicles, M. M. 2/c, wrote to his wife Helen, that he arrived safely in the British isles. He enlisted in the navy's seabees. Mavronicles, a former employe of Inland Steel, joined the service last July. He received his training in New York and before he went overseas, they gave him a furlough, which he spent at home, 3921 West 25th street, Gary, with his wife and son, Nick.



## MEMORIAL SERVICE WILL BE HELD FOR RAYMOND KWASNY



Pfc. R. Kwasny

Hammond Times, March 7, 1944

Memorial services will be held for Pfc. Raymond Kwasny, 24, killed in action in Italy last Dec. 30, at St. Stanislaus church, East Chicago, on Thursday at 8 a m. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Kwasny, 5016 Homerlee avenue, East Chicago. The War Mothers club of the parish will attend the rites and they have invited the mothers of all servicemen to be present.

Raymond, attached to an infantry division, had joined the army in March, 1942. He attended St. Stanislaus school and Roosevelt high school. Prior to his induction he was employed at Graver's Tank company of East Chicago. Other survivors are two brothers, Pvt. Stanley and Freddie, and two sisters, Marie and Jean.

## WHITING SERGEANT WINS FLYING CROSS

Hammond Times, March 6, 1944

In combat for 10 months with the U. S. army's Eighth air force in England, Tech. Sgt. Arthur J. Pramuk of Whiting, was just awarded the distinguished flying cross for "great and gallant achievement in the line of duty."

Radio operator and gunner on a B-26 bomber, T/Sgt. Pramuk was also presented his fourth oak leaf cluster to be worn with

the air medal which he received in December.

Pramuk, who is now nearing his quota of 50 bombing missions in the European theater,



T/Sgt. Pramuk

expects to be returned to the states soon, where he will see his wife and son who are residing in Whiting at 1534 — 119th street.

In service with the air corps for two years, T/Sgt. Pramuk was employed at the Standard Oil company as an oil inspector before his enlistment.

## SEES ACTION; PROMOTED



R. Gilman

Hammond Times, January 28, 1944

Made a warrant officer, junior grade, former Sgt. Ralph J. Gilman has seen plenty of action in the Pacific area. Mr. Gilman visited New Caledonia, Guadalcanal and Munda and they were not exactly pleasure trips.

He has three years service in the army to his credit, and he likes it. Before that he spent three years in the National Guard. He is still somewhere in the southwest Pacific. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Gilman, formerly of Robertsdale, now reside at Oblong, Ill. A sister Mrs. Roy Keister, lives at 1522 Warwick street, Robertsdale.



# Moberly Missouri Boys Make History

THESE HEROES BELONG TO THE V F W.



Top row, left to right: Capt James A Moberly, Post No. 2654, Moberly, Mo., hero of 25 bombing missions over Europe; Lt. Comdr E. H. O'Hare, Post No. 720, Phoenix, Ariz., holder of the Congressional Medal of Honor for shooting down six Japanese bombers; Sgt. Russell Brown, Post No 2257, Galesburg, Ill., officially credited with downing seven Japanese Zeros and holder of the Purple Heart and Silver Star decoration. Bottom row, left to right: Ensign Douglas MacDonald Post No 701 Lansing, Mich., who received the Distinguished Flying Cross for the rescue of Army flyers stranded in Greenland; Capt John J Boll, Post No. 3461 Ironton, Ohio holder of the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with Oak Leaf clusters; Lt. Charles Ozuk, Post No 1487, Chicago, Ill. a member of Brigadier General Doolittle's Tokyo bombing expedition.

The upper left picture is that of Captain James Moberly a member of Post number 2654, Moberly, Missouri. A hero of 25 bombing missions over Europe. John W. Blume the historian for the Edward H. Larsen Post is a charter member of 2654 in Moberly, Missouri, and is proud of the record that Captain Moberly has made, in his many missions over enemy territory.

You will find the complete story of Captain Moberly in the October, 1943 issue of Foreign Service. This masterly story was written by my good old friend Leo Branham another Moberly boy who has made good. Leo is home on a furlough at the present time. He

has had more than two years of foreign service with the Associated Press in Iceland and England. More than 15,000 miles of his travels have been made by plane. Branham and I spent a vacation in the Ozarks fishing in about the year 1933.

Harry R. Daniels a past Commander of 2654 just wrote me a letter giving me all of this information. Harry is employed in the post office in Moberly and is one of the most active members that Post ever had. I think that George Fairchilds was also a charter member of that Post. He too is one of the old faithful members of the Post.



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## *Master Sergeant John Schroeder*

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Sergeant John C. Schroeder

John Charles Schroeder was born April 19, 1918 in Hammond, Indiana. He was the son of Charles and Edith Schroeder who reside at 4638 Johnson street, Hammond.

Charles enlisted November 22, 1940 in the United States Army and sailed for overseas duty in June, 1942. He landed in North Ireland and from there he went to Scotland and England. Later he was transferred to North Africa being in the 1st Armored Tank Division. His serial number was 35150251.

His parents stated that John had seen plenty of active service in North Morocco, Algeria and lost his life in the battle at Tunisia. A story appearing in the Hammond Times, Jan. 3, 1944 which is on page 260 in this book, gives further details as to how they received the news of his death. His parents were officially notified by the War department, March 1, 1944, that their son had lost his life in action against the enemy in North Africa.

Memorial services were held for Sergeant Schroeder, Sunday, March 26, 1944 at the First Methodist Church, Rev. Phillips Brooks Smith officiating. There are 185 stars on the church flag. The first star of the flag is for Fred J. Mikles, the second for F. J. DeLaney and the third star for John Charles Schroeder. Mrs. H. C. Trowe sewed the gold star on the flag for Sgt. Schroeder and is the first gold star on the church flag.

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In Memoriam of  
**SERGEANT JOHN C. SCHROEDER**

Born April 19, 1918

DIED IN THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY

February 15, 1943

In The

NORTH AFRICAN AREA

Son Of

MR. and MRS. CHARLES SCHROEDER

4638 Johnson Avenue Hammond, Indiana

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The above memoriam was in the church bulletin Sunday, March 26, 1944.

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**PFC. BURTRAM HOME**

Hammond Times, February 7, 1944.

Pfc. Charles Raymond Burtram of 1523 Warwick avenue, Whiting, formerly of 838 Bauer street, Hammond, and the grandson of Mrs. Charles Ulsas, is home on a furlough from Alaska. It is his first visit home in more than a year. He said the coldest weather he experienced was 38 degrees below zero, but the wind was not as biting as around the Calumet Region. He praised the good eats as served by the army chefs.



# FAMOUS V. F. W. MEMBERS



Top row, left to right: Vice Admiral John S. McCain, U. S. N., Post No. 3235, Greenwood, Miss.; General Douglas MacArthur, Post No. 1534, Los Angeles, Calif.; Rear Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Post No. 1774, San Diego, Calif. Bottom row, left to right: Chief Machinist Donald K. Ross, Post No. 501, Denver, Colo., holder of the Congressional Medal of Honor; General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Post No. 3279, Abilene, Kansas; Lt. General Omar N. Bradley, Post No. 2654, Moberly, Mo.

## PFC. MICHAEL KRAS LISTED AS KILLED IN SOUTH PACIFIC



Pfc. Kras

Hammond Times February 8, 1944

Pfc. Michael Kras, 27 years old January 14, who was reported killed in action in the south Pacific area in a telegram from the war department received by his widow, Mrs. Annette Kras, on Feb. 3.

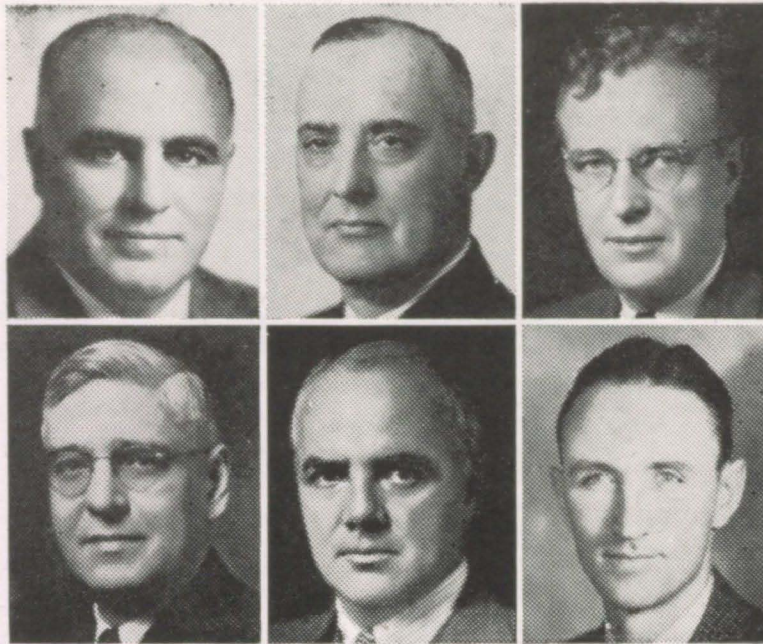
Pfc. Kras left his position with Inland Steel company to enlist with the United States marine corps on April 10, 1942. He was stationed first at San Diego, Calif., and had additional training at Hawthorne, Nev., from where he was sent to a point of embarkation. While home on leave before being sent overseas the young marine was married in Hammond on Dec. 13, 1942. He embarked from San Diego in June or July, 1943.

His widow lives at 48 Waltham street. Pfc. Kras also is survived by his mother, Mrs. Sophis Kras, 4908 Chestnut Street, Hammond, and two brothers in the army.

Pfc. Sam Kras, who is overseas and Pvt. Albert stationed in the United States.



# V. F. W. MEMBERS OF CONGRESS



Top row, left to right: Joseph P. O'Hara, Minnesota; L. H. Gavin, Pennsylvania; Charles M. LaFollette, Indiana. Bottom row, left to right: Henry C. Dworshak, Idaho; J. Parnell Thomas, New Jersey; Mike Mansfield, Montana.

## PROMOTED



J. Jacewicz

Hammond Times, February 16, 1944.

John J. Jacewicz has been promoted to supply sergeant in the quartermasters corps of the United States marines, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacewicz of 4319 Towle avenue, Hammond have learned recently. Sgt. Jacewicz had been a member of the marine reserve for two years and became one of the first to leave Hammond for active duty. He has been overseas since October 1942. He graduated from St. Casimir's school and Catholic Central high school.

## LANDELL AT GUADALCANAL



D. Landell

Hammond Times, February 16, 1944

Mixing it up with the Nips in the Solomons. Cpl. Del Landell found the U. S. troops there bowling over the enemy much the same as the boys used to bowl strikes on the Perrin's alley's in Hammond, where Del served as assistant manager.

Cpl. Landell's home address is 537 Vine street, Hammond, and he is the nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Schutz. Schutz is manager of Perrin's. Landell was a popular boy those 300 games, Del! around this town. Keep 'em bowling those 300 games, Del!



## McCLANAHAN LANDS IN BRITAIN



C. McClanahan

Hammond Times, February 7, 1944

Cpl. T/5 Clarence McClanahan sent his mother a cable telling her of his safe arrival in England recently.

He is the son of Mrs. A. L. McClanahan 1135-150th street, Hammond. Cpl. McClanahan formerly worked at Lanham's Bolt company in East Chicago prior to his induction into the army two years ago.

A graduate of Irving and Hammond high schools, class of 1939, Cpl. McClanahan is attached the armoured tank battalion forces.

## NAZIS DON'T LIKE W. P.



R. Martinson

Hammond Times, Feb. 11, 1944

"The Germans are very allergic to W.P." Sgt. Richard N. Martinson, 84th chemical batallion, now in a rest camp after four months on the Mediterranean front, writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Martinson, 1828 Stanton Avenue, Whiting. W.P. is white phosphorus, contained in mortar shells which flames and cannot be brushed off.

Martinson, a George Rogers Clark graduate, where he won first national honors as a saxophone soloist, and who was employed at the tin mill laboratory of Inland Steel before entering the service, March 27, 1942, went overseas in April 1943 and was in the Sicilian invasion and also the invasion at Salerno, Italy.

## V. F. W. MEMBERS OF CONGRESS



Top row, left to right: Representatives Fred E. Busbey, Illinois; William C. Cole, Missouri; John D. McWilliams, Connecticut. Bottom row, left to right: Ivor D. Fenton, Pennsylvania; Joe Starnes, Alabama; John P. Newsome, Alabama.



LT. CLYDE CLEVELAND, SON OF  
LATE JUDGE, MISSING SINCE JAN. 24,  
ITALIAN AIR FIGHT

Hammond Times, February 8, 1944

Second Lt. Clyde Cleveland, son of the late Superior court judge, Clyde Cleveland, has been missing in action since Jan. 24th, when he failed to return to his base following an air battle over Italy, the war department informed his mother, Mrs. Mildred Cleveland, 17 Lawndale St., Hammond, this week end.

Nearly three weeks ago Mrs. Cleveland received a letter, dated Feb. 2, from Brig. Gen. Edward M. Morris, Lt. Cleveland's commanding officer, telling her that her only son shot down a German DO-217 plane last Jan. 24, the same day he was later reported missing.

The 24-year-old hero is a pilot of a Spitfire fighter plane and has been overseas nearly a year.

Lt. Cleveland was graduated from Ham-



Lt. Cleveland

mond high school and attended Indiana university for two years. He was employed at Inland Steel company's East Chicago plant when he entered the service.

He is a nephew of Henry Cleveland, assistant city attorney of Hammond who is also defense counsel in the denaturalization trial of Bernard Claassen.



Nearly every important measure on veteran welfare enacted by Congress must first be approved by the House Committee on Veteran Legislation. Here Carl J. Schoeninger, Detroit, Mich., (right) Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S., confers with Representative John E. Rankin, Miss., chairman of the committee



## A Drive for New Memembers 1944



Left to right seated are the officers of the post. Mother Anna Mulvey the only gold star mother of the Post. Mrs. Lee Franklin, Guard; Mrs. Claude Stokes, secretary; Mrs. Owen Knerr—Junior Vice president; Mrs. Charles Buckle, President; Mrs. James Fritz, Conductress; Mrs. John Casey, Chaplain; Mrs. John Fischer, Pianist; Lillian Carr, Treasurer Pro

tem. Constance Bobinsky, District President; Verna Hansen, Color Guard, standing by flags, left to right, Ethel Willison, Color Guard; Mrs. Victor Smith, Color Guard; Mrs. Allee Fulk, Color Guard, and Mrs. Viola Jones standing by the center flag, Patriotic Instructor.

### NAVY, FDR HONOR TWIN CITY HERO

*Slain Sgt. Merritt Walton Gets Medal, and Citation*

Hammond Times, February 4, 1944

After giving his life to silence an enemy machine gun which menaced his unit on



Sgt. Walton

Guadalcanal, Marine Platoon Sgt. Merritt C. Walton of East Chicago has been awarded posthumously the navy cross with a presidential citation.

"Sgt. Walton" the citation read, "voluntarily proceeded to reconnoite the position of a hostile machine gun which threatened his

platoon's right flank. After skillfully spotting the weapon's location, he courageously participated in a daring attack and realized success in silencing this deadly menace before he died of fatal wounds."

The 27-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Walton, 717 West Chicago avenue, Sgt. Walton was wounded fatally in the Solomon Islands Aug. 7, 1942. The war department notified his parents of his death Sept. 3, of that year.

A marine for six and one-half years, he served three and one-half years in China, where he was assigned to duty on the USS Marblehead. He enlisted after the first four years and volunteered for duty in the first marine paratrooper divisions

The Waltons, who formerly lived in Sutton, Neb., moved to East Chicago, about seven years ago and their son's last visit to the Twin Cities was in March 1942.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by one sister, Clarice, who lives in California.



## VFW HONORS 55 LEADERS

### *Five Hammond Men to Be Feted at Banquet for Patriotic Services*

Hammond Times, March 30, 1944

GARY—A banquet honoring the 55 men cited during the last three years by the district Veterans of Foreign Wars organization for outstanding patriotic service ;will be held Friday night at 6:30 o'clock in the Steel City Post 909 clubrooms, Washington St., Joseph Deschenes announced today.

Included in the 55 are five Hammond men; Raymond M. Fox, W. H. McPherson, E. D. Anderson, E. A. Longgood and Rex L. Hidy. The citations were awarded during the district commandship of James F. Pace, Gary.

Each district post will be presented with an engraved citation listing all 55 names. A plaque honoring 125 sons and daughters of Steel City Post 909 members now in service will be dedicated.

## PVT. GREENING DIES IN ACTION

### *War Department Notifies Mother*



Pvt. Greening

Hammond Times, February 4, 1944

A former Hammond man, Pvt. Harold Greening, was killed in action last Jan. 15 in the south Pacific battle zone, the war department informed his mother, Mrs. Anna Gocken, Highland, yesterday.

No details of his death were included in the telegram but the mother was assured a letter giving the manner of his death follows.

Prior to his induction into the army Oct. 23, 1942, Pvt. Greening lived with his mother at 4837 Hickory avenue, Hammond, and was employed by the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company, East Chicago.

He was sent overseas late in 1942. Other survivors include a brother, Hiram Greening, and four sisters, Mrs. Roy Anderson, Lincoln, Neb.; Mrs. Raymond Boyd and Mrs. Harold Wilson, both of Hammond and Mrs. Bruchman, Highland.

## COMMENDED FOR EFFICIENCY

Hammond Times, March 2, 1944



M. BOKORI

The U. S. army unit in the Aleutian area, with which Cpl. Mike L. Bokori serves, recently commended him for "exceptionally efficient performance in the carrying out of his military duties with the army engineers."

Capt. Fred W. Richards thus cited Cpl. M. L. Bokori, 525 144th street, East Chicago. The captain said Bokori's work is outstanding and had been accomplished under the most adverse conditions. The corporal has been in Alaska since October, 1942, and is now stationed, as the military censors put it, "somewhere in the Aleutians."



## FICKLE FORTUNE FADES



A. Stone

Hammond Times, February 27, 1944

Luck was flying with Sgt. Arnold Stone last New Year's eve when he and his buddies dropped bombs into France. Luck, and courage and that sort of blind faith that makes a youngster of 21 feel that the god of battles is bound to be with him in his first fight.

The Hammond youth came back to Britain a hero. There were 142 flak holes in his four-motor Flying Fortress "Hangover." But Stone's skin was whole.

Faith and courage remained, but fickle fortune flitted to other favorites.

Yesterday Sgt. Stone was reported missing in action.

Word came to his aunt, Mrs. Harold Bynes, of 923 State street. Arnold had been like a son to her since his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Stone were killed in an automobile accident three years ago. She saw him through his last year at Roosevelt high school, East Chicago and gave him a mother's embrace when he left his construction company job to go to war. That was 15 months ago. She had no children of her own and Arnold sort of rounded out the family circle — herself, her husband and the boy.

Arnold has been a regular writer home since that big night when he got his first taste of war in giving Hitler such a New Year's present. Mrs. Bynes and Arnold's sister, Mrs. Clyde McBride, of 621 E. 7th street, Gary, have heard of his many exploits since the first miraculous escape.

"An act of God," Arnold and his fellow fighters called it when their flak-riddled fortress took fire over a French air target but

managed to get home through a swarm of Hun fighter planes.

But that was just his first experience. Others followed. Arnold was promoted from bombardier to waist gunner. On mission after mission he went and many were his narrow escapes from death, other acts attributed to a watchful Diety seeing him through every time.

The war seemed to be going along fine for Arnold. His superior recognized his bravery and skill. You could read that much between the lines in his letters. His younger brother, James Richard Stone, was so proud of Arnold. James got into the navy when he was only 16. But his guardians took him out. So Arnold had to do the fighting for the whole family. If only his luck would hold out — but the god of battles rings the changes on its acts with disconcerting rapidity.

And Arnold's luck didn't hold.

## DECORATED — PROMOTED

Hammond Times, February 14, 1944



R. J. Baldwin

Veteran of the Sicilian campaign and the south of Rome landing, wearer of the order of the Purple Heart and twice wounded in battle, Robert Baldwin of Hammond has been promoted from ensign to naval lieutenant (j.g.).

News of the young officer's promotion came yesterday to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Baldwin, of 439 Waltham street. He served as gunnery and communications officer on an amphibious LST for almost a year in the Mediterranean war theater. He was awarded the Purple Heart last September and sent it to his parents.

Lt. Baldwin, 23, is a graduate of Hammond high school and Drake university.





## *For the Orphans of War Veterans*

*America's Greatest Child Welfare Project —  
the V. F. W. National Home*

Through the facilities of the V. F. W. National Home, at Eaton Rapids, Mich., the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is the only veteran fraternity that offers its members the security of knowing their children will never be forced to seek the shelter of an unfriendly roof or the drab, colorless supervision of an orphanage maintained by public charity.

Since 1925, the V. F. W. National Home has provided shelter and protection for the orphaned sons and daughters of deceased members of the V. F. W. Regardless of the cause of the father's death — the dependent children of a veteran who dies during his active membership status are eligible to the advantages of the V. F. W. National Home. These include all the necessities and comforts of a healthy, happy youth — food, clothing, medical and dental care, excellent public school education, religious training along the lines of his family background. All this is provided at absolutely no cost to the veteran —

either before or after his death — or to his family!

To say that the V. F. W. National Home provides an ideal environment for the growth and development of boys and girls up to 18 years of age is not to exaggerate in a single degree. Few private homes, anywhere in the country, can provide children the variety of benefits enjoyed by the wards of the V.F.W. National Home.

The Home occupies a 640-acre tract of rich, rolling Michigan farm land in the valley of the Grand River, a few miles from Eaton Rapids. Here there has been built a "child village," of some 22 family-size homes — attractive brick residences of varied but harmonizing design. Here also are modern, well-equipped farm and dairy buildings, a small but efficient hospital unit built several years ago by the V.F.W. Ladies Auxiliary at a cost of \$35,000. The Auxiliary also was the donor of the more recent Community Center, a large, handsome \$65,000 building whose facil-



ities include complete gymnasium equipment and an auditorium with a stage, suitable for various kinds of entertainments, shows and parties.

Then there is the playground and athletic field recently completed at a cost of \$10,000 by the Military Order of the Cootie, V.F.W. fun degree. Funds are now being collected for an outdoor swimming pool to be installed by the M.O.C. as soon as the end of the war releases the necessary materials.

A detailed description of the V.F.W. National Home should include the beautiful orchard, whose trees bear all the apples the children at the Home can eat, besides providing a surplus for marketing. The Home is largely self-sustaining in the matter of garden produce, chicken, eggs and dairy products. Surplus supplies in all these commodities are sold and the proceeds devoted to the maintenance funds of the Home.

So much for the principal physical attributes of the V.F.W. National Home although it would require thousands of words to adequately describe the healthful Michigan climate with its sparkling winters whose heavy snows provide the Home youngsters with the skiing, sledding and skating they love — its sunfilled summers under cloudless blue skies when healthy young bodies grow strong and tanned and buoyant young spirits expand in a wise proportion of congenial duties and wholesome pleasures.

In the 18 years since the V.F.W. National Home was established, it has expanded into a million dollar project, supported through the activities of the V.F.W. and its Auxiliary. Most of the cottage units were built by the several state Departments of the V.F.W. Additional cottages are planned for early construction immediately following the termination of the present war. Particularly interesting is the fact that the members of the V.F.W. have never been assessed to support the Home. Its maintenance is entirely voluntary on the part of the individual members and units. One valuable source of the necessary funds is provided by the annual nationwide Buddy Poppy distribution, with one cent from the sale of each Buddy Poppy being devoted to the Home.

To thoroughly understand the relationship of the V.F.W. to its National Home, it is necessary to know the idealism behind the project. To every member of the Gold Chevron Order, the Eaton Rapids institution is a living memorial to his comrades-in-arms who have died. There is a close personal bond between the members of the V.F.W. As veterans of active service overseas, in America's wars, campaigns and armed expeditions, they share a background of hazardous experience, of service, hardship and sacrifice that makes the word "patriotism" a living reality to them all. Such men feel a sense of personal responsibility to one another. Their proudest boast is that the first purpose of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan."

This is the ideal which inspires the personal pride with which every member of the V.F.W. contemplates the children of the V.F.W. National Home. Only his flesh-and-blood children are more dear to him than the boys and girls of his former comrades, the wards of the V.F.W. National Home. That these children should become the finest type of American man and woman is an ambition he shares with every other member of the order. That is why the children at the Home, from their earliest years, are afforded every possible advantage that wise planning and instruction can give them. They learn pride in their heritage of patriotic service "above and beyond the call of duty." They learn to share in the responsibilities of life at the Home.

Because there is no form of regimentation at the V.F.W. National Home—there are no uniforms, no drills, no "official inspections" or other customs which belong to the traditional "institution," the children are allowed to express their personal tastes in clothing just as normal girls and boys do everywhere. Special talents are fostered by dancing or music lessons. Hobbies are encouraged and provide a source of wholesome competition.

Leadership in school activities is also encouraged with the result that Home children participate in every school club, play or other extra-curricular program. Since its beginning, the Home has been able to boast that its young wards are on every honor roll of the Eaton



Rapids high and grade schools. Its boys are on the track, baseball, basketball and football teams. Its girls serve as school librarians, members of choral clubs and on the staffs of school publications.

All this well-directed training and experience helps the boys and girls of the V.F.W. National Home to reach the age of 18 as well-rounded young men and women, capable in numerous ways, and fully prepared to go on to further schooling or to embark upon their respective careers in their chosen fields.

Since December 7, 1941, more than 50 boys who have been graduated from the Home, and two girls, have entered the Armed Forces. The service star flag at the Home already bears one gold star, in memory of Lawrence Sims, a radio operator on a Navy plane that failed to return to its base after an air mission in the Pacific last summer. Lawrence had been cited twice by the Navy Department—once for bravery during the attack on Pearl Harbor and once for scoring direct hits on enemy vessels from the air.

The husband — or father — who joins the Armed Forces today has one great anxiety. What will become of his wife and children should he fail to return?

American soldiers, sailors and marines face with unflinching courage the hardships and sufferings and dangers of warfare. They gladly endure discomfort, illness, weariness and hard work. They eagerly obey the orders that put them into direct conflict with the enemy. All the pleasures and luxuries of peacetime, they discard without a thought. Their one sincere desire is to meet the enemy and defeat him

and—if their lives must be sacrificed to that end—they will pay the price gladly.

But — what of their families? That is the shadow that hovers over thousands of members of America's Armed Forces today who have wives and children at home. They shrink from imposing on their loved ones the price of peace they themselves are willing to pay. If they could know that their wives and children would be cared for, sheltered and protected—that their comfort and future security would be assured—their greatest anxiety would be erased.

To such men, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States offers freedom from worry and haunting fear. Membership in the V.F.W.—America's Gold Chevron Order of combat service men and veterans—conveys to the wife and children of each member, eligibility to the V.F.W. National Home when and if it is needed. The continued maintenance of the V.F.W. National Home—so long as its protection is needed for the children of America's deceased veterans — is a sacred responsibility of the V.F.W.—one which it will never shirk.

It has frequently been said this is a "young man's war." Nevertheless, the nation's soldiers, sailors and marines of today represent the nation's fathers of tomorrow. That's why the story of the V.F.W. National Home is important to every man who will earn his V.F.W. eligibility in this war. Just as the government insurance for which he subscribes will furnish security for himself or for his dependent parents, his V.F.W. membership will afford additional protection for his wife and children, during the years to follow, through the facilities of the V.F.W. National Home.





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# Government Benefits

## For World War II Veterans

*Under laws enacted by the Congress of the United States as of May 1, 1943*

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### *V.F.W. Ready to Assist World War II Veterans*

Since the law provides that the American Red Cross is the only authorized agency permitted to contact members of the Armed Forces in Army and Navy hospitals for the purpose of filing original claims for compensation, insurance, etc., the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S., and other veterans' organizations, are prohibited by the War and Navy Department from giving any assistance to these men.

The veteran, however, if he so desires, may prefer to have the V.F.W. represent him in the adjudication of his claim. He can exercise this privilege by signing a power of attorney ((Form P-22) in favor of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S. at the time of filing his original claim, or any time thereafter. This power of attorney will authorize the V.F.W. to act as his legal representative in the prosecution of his claim with the Veterans Administration.

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When the present war was forced upon the United States, our country was far less prepared to meet the problems involved than it should have been. However, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S. was ready to submit to the Congress proposed legislation dealing with the welfare and security of those called upon to serve in the Armed Forces—and their dependents. Because many members of Congress are veterans of past wars, with first-hand experience in the handling of veteran problems, the legislation proposed by the V.F.W. received swift and favorable consider-

ation. As a result, those serving with the Armed Forces in this war are less handicapped than the veterans of any previous war in the history of this government.

This is a summary of the major benefits to which World War II Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard members, and their dependents, are entitled under legislation enacted by the Congress of the United States to date. This presentation deserves the careful study of all V.F.W. and Auxiliary members who can help disseminate the information contained therein to all persons serving in World War II and their relatives at home. You are urged to preserve this summary for future reference.

### ALLOWANCE AND ALLOTMENT — ARMY

Under the new Servicemen's Dependents Allowance Act of 1942, which the President signed on June 23, 1942, allowances are provided for the wives and children, and certain dependent relatives, of men in the lower grades of the Army. *This benefit is limited to relatives and dependents of enlisted men in the Seventh, Sixth, Fifth and Fourth Grades.* In the Army, these grades are: Private, Private First Class, Technician Fifth Grade, Corporal, Technician Fourth Grade and Sergeant.

The Act provides a family allowance for the wife and children of a soldier in one of these grades; and, if the soldier desires, a family allowance for certain other relatives of the soldier if they are dependent upon him for a substantial portion of their support.

Here is how the law works: A soldier, who has relatives or dependents who are eligible, gets an *official application form* from his



Commanding Officer. He fills out the form, following the simple directions printed thereon. He then returns the form to his Commanding Officer.

If his application is approved, the allowance to his relatives or dependents will begin to accrue on the first of the next succeeding month following the date of application, and will be payable to the relatives or dependents following the end of that month. The allowance will continue to be payable each month thereafter as long as the soldier and his relatives or dependents remain eligible for it, up until six months after the present war ends.

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*Relatives and dependents should not file an application if they know one has been filed by the soldier. If they apply, however, relatives and dependents must use the official application form, and must accompany their applications with certain documentary evidence.*

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If the soldier files the application, he is allowed six months in which to furnish the documentary evidence. This evidence is explained on the application form.

Official application forms (WDAGO Form No. 625) are being distributed to all Army organizations and installations throughout the world. Civilians may obtain forms by writing to the "Commanding Officer" of the nearest Army post or camp, or the nearest Army Recruiting Station, or to the "Commanding General" of any of the nine Service Commands (formerly Corps Areas).

After an application is filed, it is usually unnecessary to write further letters to the War Department regarding the allowance. Unnecessary correspondence adds to the War Department's great volume of work, and delays action on all applications. However, all changes in the status of the soldier or his relatives or dependents which might effect the allowance must be reported immediately. Changes in the status of the soldier are normally reported automatically by the soldier's unit Personnel Officer. *However, the soldier and the persons to whom the family allowances are paid are responsible that such changes as the following are reported immediately to*

*the Allowance and Allotment Branch: Change of address, birth of a child, death of a beneficiary, divorce of a wife, remarriage of a parent or a former wife divorced, the marriage of a brother, sister, child or grandchild, or the fact that any Class "B" dependent of a soldier ceases to be dependent upon him.* These changes are to be reported on an official change of status form (WDAGO Form No. 641) which may be obtained from the same sources as the official application form.

### *Who is Eligible*

For the purposes of family allowances, the relatives and dependents of a soldier are divided into two classes. Class "A" and Class "B." In Class "A" are the wife and children of the soldier and a former wife divorced to whom alimony is payable. Class "A" relatives do not have to be dependent upon the soldier in order to be eligible for a family allowance. In Class "B" are the parents, brothers, sisters and grandchildren of the soldier. Class "B" dependents must be dependent upon the soldier for a substantial portion of their support in order to be eligible.

### *Meanings of Terms in Class "A" and Class "B"*

In determining who is eligible for allowances, the terms used in Class "A" and Class "B" have the following meanings:

#### *Class "A"*

Wife—A Lawful Wife.

Child—Includes the following:

- (1) A legitimate child.
- (2) A child legally adopted.
- (3) A stepchild, if a member of the man's household; including a stepchild who continues as a member of the man's household after the death of the mother or termination of the marriage; and
- (4) An illegitimate child, but only if the man has been judicially ordered or decreed to contribute to such child's support; has been judicially decreed to be the putative father of such child; or, has acknowledged under oath in writing, that he is the father of such child.



Former Wife Divorced — Former wife divorced who has not remarried and to whom alimony has been decreed and is still payable.

### Class "B"

Parent—Includes father and mother, grandfather and grandmother, stepfather, and stepmother, father and mother through adoption, either of the soldier or of his wife, and persons who, for a period of not less than one year prior to the man's enlistment or induction, stood in place of parents (in loco parentis) to the soldier. (Note no more than two "parents" are eligible for an allowance based on the service of one soldier).

Brother and Sister—Includes brothers and sisters of the half blood, as well as those of the whole blood, stepbrothers and stepsisters, and brothers and sisters through adoption.

Grandchild—A child as above defined of a child as above defined, and is limited to persons to whom the soldier has stood in place of parents (in loco parentis) for a period of not less than one year prior to his enlistment or induction.

Note: The terms "Child," "Grandchild," "Brother," and "Sister" are limited to unmarried persons either (1) under eighteen years of age, or (2) of any age, if incapable of self-support by reason of mental or physical defect.

### Amount of Contribution by Service Person

For each month for which an allowance is paid to the relatives or dependents of a soldier, \$22 will be deducted from, or charged to, his pay. This deduction or charge is made whether they are in Class "A" or Class "B". However, if allowances are paid for both Class "A" and Class "B", \$27 will be deducted from his pay. (The above amounts are the normal situation. However, if by legal agreement or court order, the soldier is obligated to pay alimony or support, which is a lesser amount than the total allowance, the monthly deductions from his pay and the government's contribution will be reduced proportionately).

Here is a typical example. If a soldier obtains an allowance for his wife and children,

he will have \$22 deducted from, or charged to, his pay each month, if he also obtains an allowance for a dependent parent, brother, sister, or grandchild, he will have an additional \$5, or \$27 in all, deducted from or charged to, his pay each month.

### Total Monthly Allowance, Including Government's Contribution and Soldier's Contribution

Wife but no child	\$ 50
Wife and 1 child	\$ 62
Wife and 2 children	\$ 72
Wife and 3 children	\$ 82
Wife and 4 children	\$ 92
Wife and 5 children	\$102
No wife but 1 child	\$ 42
No wife but 2 children	\$ 52
No wife but 3 children	\$ 62
No wife but 4 children	\$ 72
No wife but 5 children	\$ 82
Divorced wife	\$ 42

(The total allowance payable to a divorced wife depends on the amount of the alimony and the number of other dependents of the soldier, but in no case will the allowance exceed the decreed alimony, nor \$42 per month.)

Questions on specific cases should be referred directly to the Allowance & Allotment Branch.

1 Parent	\$ 37
1 Parent and 1 sister, brother, or grandchild	\$ 42
2 Parents	\$ 47
2 Parents and 1 sister, brother, or grandchild	\$ 52
No parent but 5 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	\$ 47
Wife but no child and 1 parent	\$ 70
Wife but no child and 2 parents	\$ 80
Wife, 1 child and 1 parent	\$ 82
Wife, 4 children and 1 parent	\$112



Many other combinations of relatives and dependents are possible, and are authorized for allowances when eligible. The above are presented only as typical examples.

### *How to File an Application*

Allowances will be paid *only* on application by the soldier or his dependents or relatives or by persons acting on their behalf. Applications must be submitted on the official application form (WDAGO Form No. 625). In other words, no letters, or other informal applications will be accepted.

When an application is made by, or for, a relative or dependent, *the Original and the Official Copy*, plus all documentary evidence required are mailed to the *Office of Dependency Benefits*, 213 Washington Street, Newark, New Jersey. The applicant's copy is retained by the applicant. Application forms may be obtained from the above address.

In filling out the application, a typewriter should be used, if possible; if not, the applicant should print *legibly*—in ink.

*Every question must be answered.* If a certain question is not applicable to the case, "None" should be written after the question.

### *Documentary Proof Which Must Accompany Application*

If application is made by a person other than the soldier, the following documentary proof *must accompany the application*. However, if application is made by the soldier, he may have up to six months from the date of filing the application in which to furnish such documentary proof to the Allowance and Allotment Branch, War Department.

#### *Date of Birth of Minors Who Are Under 18 Years of Age*

- a. A certified copy of the public record of birth or church record of baptism.
- b. If *a* cannot be produced, an explanation and an affidavit from physician or midwife in attendance at birth.
- c. If *a* or *b* cannot be produced, the affidavits of two or more disinterested persons stat-

ing their ages and the name, date, and place of birth of the person whose date of birth is being established and stating that to the best of their own knowledge such person is the child of such parents, naming the parents.

- d. If *a*, *b*, or *c* cannot be produced, an explanation why, and other evidence such as family Bible, church, naturalization, immigration or hospital records, abstracts of passports, or insurance policies, etc., provided it is properly certified as a true copy of the original by a notary public or similar official and supported by documents such as affidavits from disinterested persons.

### *Proof of Marriage to Soldier*

- a. A duly certified copy of the public or church record.
- b. If *a* cannot be produced, an explanation and an affidavit of the clergyman or magistrate who officiated.
- c. If *b* cannot be procured, the production of the original marriage certificate or a certified photostatic copy accompanied by proof of its genuineness and authority of the person to perform the marriage.
- d. If *a*, *b*, or *c* cannot be procured, then the affidavit of two or more eyewitnesses to the ceremony.
- e. In jurisdiction where common-law marriages are recognized, proof may be established by affidavit of one or both parties to the marriage, if living, supplemented by affidavits of two or more witnesses who know that the parties lived together as husband and wife and were so recognized, and stating how long to their knowledge such relationship continued.

### *Adoption of a Minor Under 18 by the Soldier or Previous Adoption of the Soldier by a Foster Parent*

A certificate from the clerk of the court which legalized the adoption, or certified copy of order of adoption from a court of competent jurisdiction.



### *Illegitimate Child of a Soldier*

Certified copy of court decree adjudging soldier to be putative father of child, or of court order requiring him to contribute to child's support, or soldier's written acknowledgment under oath that he is the father of the child.

### *Change of Name of a Dependent of the Soldier*

- a. A certified copy of degree of the court order or other court record effecting such change of name.
- b. Affidavit from two disinterested persons setting forth the facts and the cause for, and circumstances concerning the change of name, in states which do not require a court order or record.

### *Divorce of Former Wife of the Soldier: Separation or Maintenance Concerning Wife, Former Wife or Children*

- a. Certified copy of the divorce decree from the court in which such decree was awarded.
- b. Separation or maintenance agreement concerning wife, former wife, or children to which must be appended an affidavit that the same is a true copy in all respects and is still in full force and effect.

### *Guardianship of a Dependent of the Soldier*

Certified copy of court decree and certification by clerk of the court that the guardian so appointed is now performing his duty as such.

### *Mental or Physical Defects*

Affidavit that unmarried child, grandchild, brother or sister, if over eighteen (18) years of age, is incapable of self support by reason of mental or physical defects, corroborated by affidavit of licensed physician or psychiatrist.

### *Relationship of Parent (In loco parentis)*

Affidavit of two (2) disinterested persons of facts showing that dependent stood in loco parentis to soldier for one year or more immediately prior to his induction or enlistment into service; degree of control exercised over enlisted man should be indicated.

### *Dependency (Class "B")*

Proof of status by affidavits of at least two reputable disinterested persons attesting to the relationship and dependency of the relative to the soldier is required. Each person making an affidavit should show his status with respect to the claimant or applicant, and in what manner he learned the facts to which he has sworn and subscribed. The affidavit should also contain the home or business address of the person making the affidavit. Photostatic copies of documentary evidence, like any other true copies, will be accepted if properly certified as to their authenticity.

### *Allowance and Allotment—Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard*

While the above specifically refers to soldiers, it is equally applicable to members of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, in the same pay grades, except that applications should be addressed to the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Field Service Division, Navy Department, Euclid Avenue at 13th, Cleveland, Ohio.

### *This Legislation was Initiated and Sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars*

### *Government Life (Converted) Insurance*

Persons now in our Armed Forces who served during World War I between April 6, 1917, and July 2, 1921, and who are in good health may secure insurance under the old War Risk Insurance Act as amended.

Where it is possible the applicant should obtain insurance under the old War Risk Insurance Act, as amended, as this Act provides for the payment of insurance benefits should the insured become permanently and totally disabled; that is, unable to follow continuously a substantially gainful occupation.

Monthly installments will be paid in the amount of \$5.75 for each \$1,000 insurance.



The National Service Life Insurance Act does not carry this provision. It provides only for the waiver of payments of premiums over the period the insured is totally disabled.

Another advantage of Government Life (converted) Insurance is that the class of beneficiaries is not limited. Too, in the event of maturity by death this form of insurance may be paid in a lump sum, or in thirty-six or more monthly installments.

The beneficiary may elect to receive payments in a greater but not lesser number of installments than designated by the insured.

Veterans Administration Forms 579 and 579A are used to claim maturity by reason of permanent and total disability.

In case of death a formal claim should not be executed until receipt of form and instructions from the Director of Insurance, Veterans Administration.

#### *National Service Life Insurance and Automatic Insurance*

Part I of Public No. 801, 76th Congress, as approved October 8, 1940, and subsequently amended, affords each man entering our Armed Forces an opportunity to protect his dependents by purchasing National Service Life Insurance.

This insurance may be secured without physical examination if applied for within 120 days after entrance into service. After the person in the Armed Forces has served for more than 120 days the application must be accompanied by physical examination showing good health.

Due to the fact that less than half of the men in our Armed Forces had applied for insurance prior to December 7, 1941, the Veterans of Foreign Wars sought and secured an amendment to this Act, approved December 20, 1941, (Public No. 360) which extended the time for applying for insurance, and also protected those in service on December 20, 1941, who died or became totally disabled after October 8, 1940, with automatic insurance in the amount of \$5,000 until April 19, 1942. Those entering service after December 20, 1941, are not protected by automatic insurance.

This automatic insurance is payable only to the following permitted classes:

1. To the widow or widower of the insured, if living and while unmarried;
2. If no widow or widower entitled thereto, to the child or children of the insured, if living, in equal shares;
3. If no widow or widower entitled thereto, or child, to the dependent mother or father, including loco parentis, of the insured, if living, in equal shares.

Following the enactment of Public No. 360 and the expiration of the 120 days, it became obvious that thousands of men in the services had no insurance protection or were inadequately covered, and due to the fact that many of these were overseas, and it was impossible to furnish them insurance applications, and secure the necessary examinations, the V.F.W. initiated legislation to provide that applications be accepted for another 120 days without physical examination. This bill was approved by the President on April 12, 1943, as Public Law No. 36. All persons now in our Armed Services may secure this protection without physical examination on or before August 10, 1943. Note: In no case does automatic insurance protection extend beyond April 19, 1942, except in cases where members of our Armed Forces were taken prisoner or otherwise isolated by the enemy prior to April 19, 1942.

National Service Life Insurance is matutable only by death of the insured, but premiums may be waived for total disability of six consecutive months or more occurring while insurance is in effect and before reaching the age of 60 years.

Beneficiaries are limited to: Wife, husband, child (includes adopted child, step-child, illegitimate child), parents (includes parents through adoption and persons who stood in loco parentis to the insured for not less than one year prior to entry into active service), brother or sister (including those of the half blood).

The insured may designate his beneficiary or beneficiaries in such order as he desires. If the beneficiary eligible to take payments is under 30 years of age at the time the insurance is matured by reason of death, payments will



be made in 240 monthly installments in the amount of \$5.51 for each \$1,000 insurance. Where the beneficiary is 30 years of age or over when the contract matures, payments are made at the rate of from \$3.97 per \$1,000 at age of 30, to \$9.61 per \$1,000 at age of 85. Application for this insurance is made either directly through the service agencies, or on contact with the Veterans Administration. Payments of premiums may be made directly to the Veterans Administration or deducted from the service payroll.

The insurance is issued originally on the 5-year level premium term plan, with the privilege of conversion to or exchange for policies of National Service Life Insurance on the ordinary life, 20 payment life, or 30 payment life plan, at any time after the 5-year level premium term policy has been in force for one year and within the 5-year term period.

In no case will insurance be issued in excess of \$10,000.

Beneficiaries of National Service Life Insurance do not have a vested right in any installment or installments of such insurance.

Where the insured fails to name a beneficiary or where the named beneficiary dies before completion of payment of the guaranteed installments the remaining installments are paid only to the persons listed below, in order, and in no other way:

1. Widow or widower of the insured.
2. Child or children of the insured (including adopted children in equal shares.
3. Parent or parents who last bore such relationship to the insured (including parent through adoption and persons who stood in loco parentis to the insured for a period of not less than one year prior to entry into active service) in equal shares.
4. Brothers and sisters of the insured (including those of the half blood) in equal shares.

Veterans Administration Form 537 is used for claiming waiver of premium, Form 355 for claiming death benefit. All claims are filed with Central Office, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C.

Proof of age and relationship is made in the same manner as for World War I cases.

Where dependency for automatic insurance must be established Veterans Administration Form 355A should be used, and presented to the Director of Insurance, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C. Claim for automatic insurance must be filed with the Veterans Administration within one year from the date of death of the person in service or from July 11, 1942, whichever is the later date except as to those who are mentally or legally incompetent, who have until one year following removal of incompetence.

### *Deceased Veterans and Their Dependents*

#### *Burial*

When a soldier dies while on active duty with the United States Army, the expenses incident to preparation of his remains and transportation to the place designated by the legal next of kin are borne by the War Department in accordance with existing regulations.

After the remains arrive at destination an amount not exceeding \$50.00 may be allowed for necessary expenses of interment — such expenses to include undertaker's services, cost of grave site, opening and closing of grave, transportation of remains and immediate relatives to the cemetery, and services of a minister. In these cases the following is the correct procedure to be followed:

a. The undertaker rendering services incident to the interment of the remains at destination should submit this itemized bill in quadruplicate to the Quartermaster General, War Department, Washington, D. C., with a certificate on each copy over the signature of the undertaker.

b. If the relatives pay the undertaker for the services rendered, the person paying same should address a letter to the Quartermaster General, War Department, Washington, D. C., requesting reimbursement and accompanying such request with an itemized receipted bill in quadruplicate.

Upon receipt of the bill in the Quartermaster General's Office executed in either of the two ways described above you may rest assured it will be given every consideration



with a view to payment in the amount allowed under existing regulations.

### *Burial for Veterans who Die in Veterans Administration Hospitals*

The maximum reimbursement for burial and funeral expenses as prescribed by the Regulations dealing with this subject is \$100, but a special provision in the Regulation dealing with hospitalization and domiciliary care permits payment of transportation for the body in excess of this amount. This special provision only applies when the veteran dies while receiving hospitalization or domiciliary care. In such instances transportation will be furnished by the Government to the place of residence or nearest National Cemetery. The actual allowance for embalming, casket and clothing cannot exceed \$80 when the body is to be shipped from a Veteran Hospital or Home. The remaining \$20 is available for secondary service. In the event relatives or friends desire burial at a place more distant than place of residence it will be necessary for them to pay excess cost of transportation in advance. This is applicable to veterans of all wars, including World War No. II and those serving in time of peace.

### *Burial Allowance*

An allowance for burial under certain conditions is made for all honorably discharged war veterans. A flag to drape the casket of any honorably discharged veteran shall also be furnished upon application. After burial it is given to the next of kin. A flag may be secured from any Veterans Administration Facility or Post Office designated by the Veterans Administration.

The following requirements are necessary to secure burial allowance:

1. Honorable discharge from war service.
2. Service in the World War between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918; except if veterans served in Russia before April 2, 1920.
3. Service for Spanish-American War Veterans between April 21, 1898, and July 4, 1902. This has been extended to July 15, 1903, for those who served in the Moro Province.

### 4. Services after December 6, 1941.

The amount payable is \$100 which covers burial, general expenses and transportation of the body.

No deduction is made from the sum allowed because of contributions toward funeral and burial made by a State or other political subdivision, union, fraternal organization, but aggregate of all sums allowed shall not exceed the actual cost.

Veterans Administration Form 530 is used to claim this benefit. This claim should be executed by the undertaker if the bill is unpaid. If paid, it shall be executed by the person who defrayed the funeral expenses. It should be accompanied by Form P-121 in duplicate. These claims should be filed through the National Service Bureau.

NOTE: Burial claims must be filed within two years after the veteran's death and if claim is not complete when filed, the Veterans Administration will advise claimant as to evidence needed for completion. If the required evidence is not filed within one year from date of request the claim will be disallowed.

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### *The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S. Initiated and Sponsored Public Law No. 10, 78th Congress, Which Grants War Time Burial Benefits to Veterans of World War II*

### *Burial Flags*

These are furnished as indicated in the articles on burial for soldiers who die in service and burial allowance.

### *Death Gratuity*

Upon death while on active duty and not the result of own misconduct of a member of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard, there may be payable a sum equal to six months' pay at the rate allowable at time of death. This is known as the six months' death gratuity.

ARMY: Payable to the widow and if there is no widow to the child or children; if there be no widow or child to any other dependent



relative of such officer or enlisted man previously designated by him.

A recent decision of the Comptroller General says: "I conclude that limiting the payment 'to any other dependent relative—previously designated' who has an insurable interest in the life of the deceased will more fully give effect to the intent, as well as the purpose and object, of the status than to require a showing of actual dependency, even to a limited degree, of any relative previously designated."

It is held that the mother, father, brother or sister have an insurable interest and that more distant relations must prove an insurable interest to be eligible to receive this benefit.

Claims for this benefit are presented to the Gratuity Pay Section, Finance Office, United States Army, Washington, D. C. on forms furnished by that Department.

NAVY, MARINE CORPS AND COAST GUARD: Payable to the widow, and if there is no widow, to the child or children, and if there be no widow or child, to any other dependent relative previously designated, or if no one in the designated classes, to any grandparent, parent, sister, or brother shown to be actually dependent upon the deceased.

As to those in the "previously designated" classifications the rule set forth by the Comptroller General is the same as for the Army but as to the latter classifications there must be proof of both insurable interest and actual dependency.

Claims for this benefit are presented to the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., upon forms furnished by that office.

#### *Medical Care While on Leave*

Army personnel on leave for twenty-four hours or less who require medical attention may arrange for the necessary civilian attention at Government expense either through their commanding officer or as individuals. If the original leave was granted for more than twenty-four hours, it is impossible to secure reimbursement for civilian medical care. However, such individuals may receive medi-

cal care from any Army post or station or any Government hospital or dispensary. Such individuals or some one for them should immediately report all facts relating to the injury or illness requiring hospital care to the surgeon's office of the proper Service Command. The report should contain a complete statement of the case signed by the attending physician.

Naval and Marine Corps personnel on leave are not entitled to civilian medical care at government expense. Such personnel should report to their commanding officer or to the nearest Naval or Marine Corps station or nearest Naval or Marine Corps station or naval hospital.

Coast Guard personnel on leave who are beyond reach of regularly established relief facilities are not entitled to medical care at government expense. Dependents of Coast Guardsmen may be given out-patient care at Marine hospital and some Public Health Service relief stations. Note: Since November 2, 1941, the Coast Guard has operated under the Navy.

#### *Army Emergency Relief*

The Army has made special provisions for soldiers whose families might otherwise suffer hardships before the first family allowances are paid. However, there are a number of private service organizations throughout the country which are giving help to soldiers' families who are suffering hardship because of the soldier's military service. For example, the American Red Cross has local chapters in over 3,400 cities and towns, and additional branches in many more villages. The Army Emergency Relief has a "Section Officer" in almost every Army post and camp, and a "Branch Officer" in every service Command Headquarters.

#### *Navy Relief Society*

Members of the Naval services or their families in need of emergency financial assistance may secure help by application to the Navy Relief organization at the Navy Yards or naval training station, and the naval air stations. If they are not conveniently near any such station, they should apply for such aid from the Navy Relief Society through their local Red Cross.



## *Civil Relief*

This law is for the purpose of protecting life insurance and property rights of those in the active military service.

It does not relieve one of his legal obligations or fulfillment of contracts, however, it is effective when ability to meet obligations is impaired through service in the Armed Forces.

Generally, protection is afforded against eviction or distress for non-payment of rent, against taking undue advantage of one in service in court proceedings, in foreclosure of mortgages or deeds of trust, and against assessment of penalties because of inability to pay taxes, et cetera.

It also affords protection through the Veterans Administration against lapsation of commercial life insurance contracts. Veterans Administration Form 380 should be available at all military and naval posts and is used to secure such protection.

All matters affecting real or personal property rights should be referred promptly to competent local attorneys for assistance and advice.

## *Missing in Action*

Public Law No. 490, 77th Congress, March 7, 1942, provides that when any person in active service is officially reported as missing, in action, interned in a neutral country, or captured by an enemy shall, while so absent, be entitled to receive or have credited to his account all pay and allowances to which he was entitled at the time of the beginning of such absence. This protects allotments for support of dependents and insurance premiums. It also permits allowances for members of family even though the missing person may not have made provisions for same.

Inquiries as to Army cases should be directed to the Adjutant General, United States Army, Washington, D. C., and Navy cases to the Bureau of Navy Personnel, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Many inquiries are received by the Veterans of Foreign Wars as to individuals whose whereabouts are unknown. We cannot give this information. The Service Department

concerned invariably notifies next of kin when a man is reported killed, wounded, or missing, *before* the facts are released to anyone else, and gives all information available.

## *Veterans After Discharge*

### *Pensions*

There is no provision at the present time for the payment of pensions to veterans of World War II except for service connected disability.

Service connection is established under Veterans Regulation No. 1 (a), Part II, which is more restrictive than are the laws and regulations allowing compensation to World War veterans.

However, full war time rates are payable under Public Law No. 359, 77th Congress, effective December 19, 1941.

### *The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S. Supported This Legislation*

The injury or disease causing disability or death must have been incurred in line of duty, otherwise, service connection cannot be allowed.

Misconduct or discharge under other than honorable condition is an absolute bar against the payment of pension.

The decisions of the War and Navy Departments as to line of duty or misconduct are not completely binding upon the Veterans Administration as these terms are defined for pension purposes by Public Law No. 648, 75th Congress, June 16, 1938.

There are no presumptions of service connection, but there is a rebuttable presumption of sound condition at enlistment after six months or more of active military service, which may be rebutted either by facts or medical judgment.

Veterans Administration Form 526 is used to claim disability pension and should be filed with the Veterans Administration Regional Office having jurisdiction over place of residence. When a proper claim was filed coincident with discharge it is not necessary to file a new claim.

Power of attorney, Form P-22, in favor of



the Veterans of Foreign Wars should be filed with the claim. Pensions are payable only under the 1933 Rating Schedule on evaluations of 10 per cent or multiples thereof, plus statutory allowance in certain cases. No additional disability pension is payable for or on account of dependents.

Disability incurred before December 7, 1941, with discharge thereafter, is pensionable at peace time rates unless there was an aggravation of the disability after December 7, 1941, or unless the disability was "a direct result of armed conflict, or while engaged in extra hazardous service, including such service under conditions simulating war" (Public No. 359, 77th Congress).

#### *Hospitalization and Domiciliary Care*

Public Law No. 10, 78th Congress, approved March 17, 1943, extends full hospitalization privileges on the same basis as veterans of other wars, to "any person who served in the active military or naval service of the United States on or after December 7, 1941, and before the termination of hostilities or by concurrent resolution of the Congress: Provided, That the term 'active military or naval service,' as used herein, shall include active duty as a member of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, Women's Reserve of the Navy and Marine Corps, and the Women's Reserve of the Coast Guard." Approved March 17, 1943.

*This legislation was initiated and sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S.*  
*Pay and Allowance Due at Death*

All claims for pay and allowances due to a service man at time of death in the active service are settled by the General Accounting Office, Washington, D. C.

These claims must be over the personal signature of the next of kin or legal representative of the deceased.

#### *Headstones*

Upon application to the Quartermaster General, United States Army, Washington, D. C., headstones will be furnished for unmarked graves of soldiers, sailors, marines and army nurses who served in the Army or Navy

of the United States (including the Revolutionary War and service with the military forces of The Confederate States of America), they died in the service or after muster out or after honorable discharge. The headstones whether regular or volunteer, and whether for Civil and Spanish War are of American white marble, 39 inches long, 12 inches wide and 4 inches thick; for the World War, 42 inches long, 4 inches thick and 13 inches wide. Headstones will be shipped freight prepaid by the Government, only to the nearest station or steamboat landing.

In addition to the above described marker there is authorized a flat marker 24 inches long, 12 inches wide and 4 inches thick. Placed flush with the ground. Inscription will be placed parallel to the greatest dimension on the stone and will consist of the full name of the veteran, the State from which he came, his rank, regiment, and date of death. There will be no religious or other emblems or shield on this marker.

The issuance of bronze markers was also authorized, but because of the scarcity of bronze and the need for same in our War effort their use has been discontinued.

#### *Women Veterans*

Members of the Army and Navy Nurse Corps are entitled to disability pension on the same basis as male members of the Armed Forces. The Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, the Women's Reserve of the Navy and Marine Corps, and the Women's Reserve of the Coast Guard are not yet covered by the pension laws, and disability and death claims for these units are handled by the U. S. Employees' Compensation Commission, 385 Madison Avenue, New York City. The WAVES as well as members of the Army and Navy Nurse Corps are entitled to National Service Life Insurance while the WAACS are not. Under Public Law No. 10, 78th Congress members of the WAACS, WAVES, SPARS and Marine Corps Auxiliary Reserve are eligible to hospitalization benefits on the same basis as members of the Armed Forces.

#### *Vocational Rehabilitation*

"Public No. 16, 78th Congress, amended Veterans Regulation No. 1 (a), as amended, to provide among other things 'that any per-



son who served in the active military or naval service at any time after December 6, 1941, and prior to the termination of the present war, who is honorably discharged therefrom and who has a disability incurred in or aggravated by such service for which a pension is payable under laws administered by the Veterans Administration or would be but for the receipt of retirement pay, and is in need of vocational rehabilitation to overcome the handicap of such disability, shall be entitled to such vocational rehabilitation as may be prescribed by the Administrator of Veterans Affairs to fit him for employment consistent with the degree of disablement' . . ."

It is to be distinctly borne in mind, in applying the above definition, that there is a clear distinction between average impairment in earning capacity for pension purposes and a vocational handicap requiring vocational rehabilitation to overcome the handicap. A person who is totally disabled on the basis of average impairment in earning capacity may nevertheless be fully able to secure and pursue employment in some occupation for which he is well qualified. Conversely, a person who has a very slight pensionable disability may, on account of peculiar relationships existing between specified skills and his occupational experience, have a vocational handicap which would require vocational rehabilitation to

overcome. It should also be borne in mind that unemployment is not necessarily an indication that a vocational handicap exists, nor is employment alone sufficient to support a determination that no vocational handicap exists. Mere temporary employment, the tenure of which may be dubious or which is not suitable for the individual, or comparable with his education, occupational training and skill, is not incompatible with the existence of a vocational handicap. A disabled person may be able to follow occupations not comparable with the occupation pursued prior to service and still have a vocational handicap. By comparable is meant, substantially similar or on a parity with regard to remuneration, permanence of employment, opportunities for advancement, and environment. When, however, the disabled person's best interests will be served by seeking and pursuing employment for which he is qualified, that is, when this offers a suitable career, it may not be held that a vocational handicap exists.

Application for vocational training should be made on Veterans Administration Form 1900, which may be secured from any Veterans Administration Regional Office.

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*The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S. was a joint sponsor of this legislation.*





# *Veterans' Administration Facility*

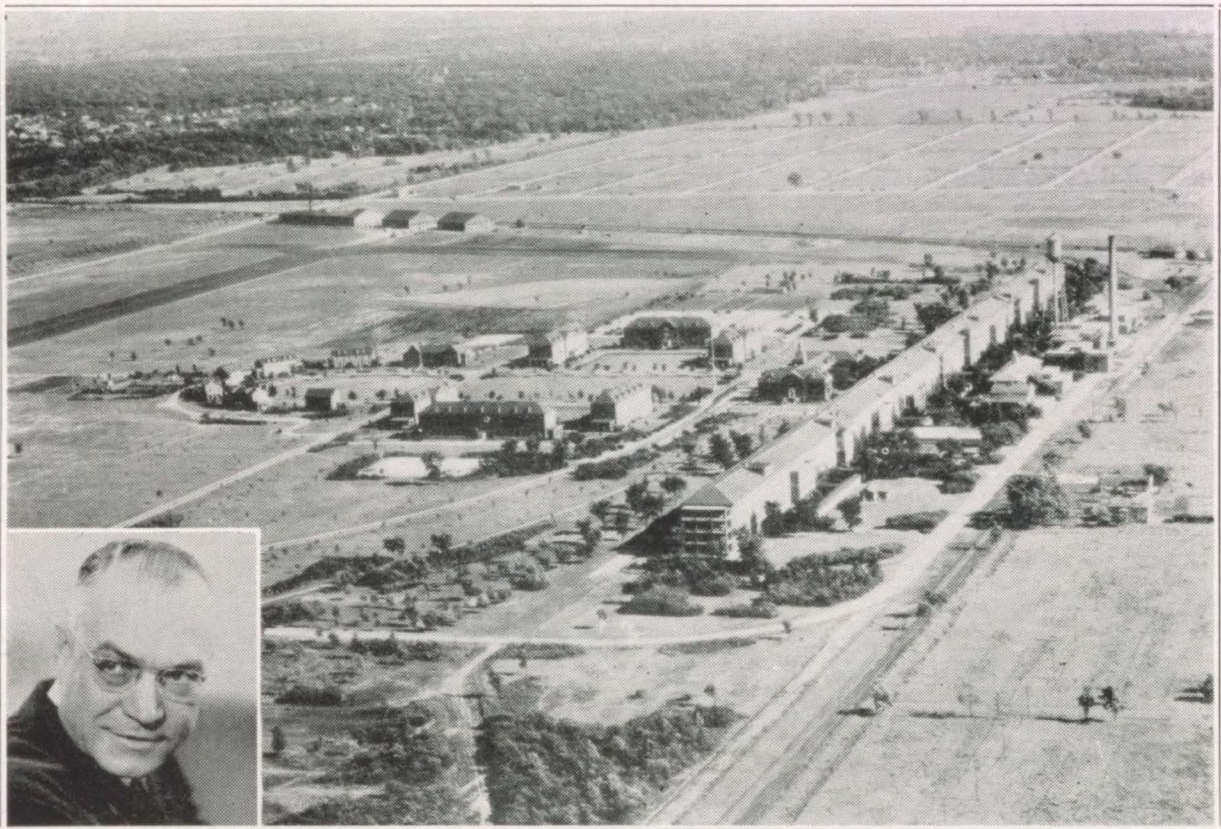
## *Hines, Illinois*

Charles Gordon Beck, the present manager of the Veterans' Administration at Hines, Illinois, was born in Decatur, Nebraska, in 1892. He was a graduate of the University of Nebraska in 1914, enlisted in the United States Army September 19, 1917, and was discharged from the service January 24, 1919. He served as a Lieutenant in the Infantry.

Comrade Beck was a former Manager of the Veterans' Administration at Lincoln, Nebraska, and also in Des Moines, Iowa. He served as training assistant of the Administra-

tion in the St. Louis office. He was associated with the Veterans Administration since 1919. In 1934 he was made Manager of the Administration in Des Moines, Iowa, June the first, 1939, he was transferred to Hines, Illinois, as Acting Manager and was appointed Manager September first, 1939.

The World War is responsible for the establishment of a series of government hospitals throughout the United States where disabled veterans are receiving treatment for disabilities incurred during their military and naval



Charles Gordon Beck, Mgr.

HINES HOSPITAL, HINES, ILLINOIS

service, in many instances for disabilities which can be classified as the after-effects of the war. In the early history of the World War, the engineers of the War Department were determined to select a central location where one of the largest government hospitals might be built. The War Department finally

decided upon a 320-acre tract located directly south of Maywood, Illinois, upon which tract was built and developed the present Edward Hines, Jr., Memorial Hospital. Construction was completed in August, 1921, when the first patient was admitted for treatment.

The hospital was named in honor of the son



of the late Edward Hines, owner of the Hines Lumber Company. Lieutenant Hines lost his life in France during the World War, and was one of the first commissioned officers from the Student Army Training Corps to see foreign service. Dr. White was the first medical officer in charge of this institution, and he was succeeded on August 1, 1922, by Dr. R. W. C. Francis, a surgeon of the United States Public Health Service, followed by Col. Hugh Scott in 1927 and the present manager, Mr. Charles G. Beck, in 1939.

The Hines reservation comprises today approximately 31 buildings, the chief building being the hospital, which is four stories high, covering an area of 2040 feet in length and 50 feet in width. It has a bed capacity for the hospitalization of 1750 patients, and is divided into eight wards, A to G, and a women's ward for war nurses. Ward A houses all tuberculosis patients; Wars B and C are surgical wards; Ward D, the diagnosis center; Ward E, tumor and cancer cases; and Wards F and G house the mental and neuropsychiatric patients.

This hospital has been developed into one of the foremost cancer clinics in the world, and the cancer equipment today contains every mechanical appliance known to science, including the latest development of a deep X-ray machine. For the purpose of general administration as well as specialization of ailments, aside from cancer, the staff of the hospital has made great strides in fighting tuberculosis and other diseases. Another ward of the facility where much progress has been made in recent years is the Diagnostic Center, where baffling cases are studied by staff specialists, supported by consultants who are considered the best authorities in their particular branches of medicine in the country. Nervous cases are also hospitalized at this facility, but when the neuropsychiatric condition assumes a more advanced stage, the patient is transferred to the Veterans' Administration Facilities at North Chicago or Danville, Illinois, which are equipped primarily for the treatment of mental disorders.

Aside from giving veterans all the medical attention possible, patients hospitalized at this facility also find their recreational activities are not neglected. The best theatrical performers obtainable in the Chicago area cheerfully donate their services to make the vet-

erans forget their disabilities and forget that the war, in many instances, left them physical wrecks so that they were never again able to resume gainful occupations. The library furnishes diversified reading matter and literature, while the occupational therapy department teaches the disabled veterans various crafts, such as rug-making and leather work, in order to relieve them of the monotony of hospital existence. In many instances veterans who were unable to resume their former occupations after being discharged from the hospital, are able to earn a livelihood by weaving rugs and making other objects which they are taught while at the Hines Facility.

This hospital has been developed into a training center for government physicians, who study specialized fields of medicine, and upon completion of their courses at Hines, are transferred to other government hospitals throughout the United States.

The complete clinical laboratory equipment is further utilized in developing and furnishing serum, slides, et cetra, for other hospitals under government supervision.

Our government is continually striving to alleviate the distress of the disabled war veterans by introducing the latest methods of treatment and equipment known to medical science, which in many cases results in extending the longevity of our veterans.

This facility today is not only recognized by the government as the foremost government hospital, but also receives the heartiest support of service and civic organizations throughout the country.

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### *A Message from Charles G. Beck*

It is quite obvious to all that, in order to extend the benefits of hospitalization and medical care of veterans of World War II that are now being extended to veterans of prior wars, it will be necessary for the Veterans Administration to increase the size of many of its facilities, and, perhaps, acquire new facilities. With his usual foresightedness, Brigadier-General Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, has arranged with the Army that, insofar as practical and possible, the construc-

Continued on Page 398



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## *State of Indiana Veteran's Benefits*

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59-1001 (13684). *Pension papers — No fees charged.* — All clerks of circuit courts, county auditors and county recorders shall administer oaths, affix jurats and attestations and the seal of their respective office to any and all instruments in writing necessary for the procurement or drawing of any pension, bounty, back pay or prize money, for any and all soldiers, seamen, their widows or orphans, free of charge. (Acts 1897, ch. 12, Sec. 1, p. 12.)

59-1002 (13685). *Discharge papers of soldiers and sailors — Permanent record.* — For the purpose of providing a special and permanent record for recording discharges from the army or navy or any other branch of the naval, military or other service of the United States, of soldiers, sailors, marines or members of any other branch of the service, and residents of the state of Indiana, who have served in any capacity in any of the wars in which the United States has been engaged, the recorder of each county, at the expense of the county, is hereby authorized and required to procure, immediately, a sufficiently large and well-bound book of good material, in which he shall record all discharges of such soldiers, sailors, marines or other such persons who served in any capacity in any such war, which are delivered or presented to such recorders for recording. (Acts 1925, ch. 131, Sec. 1, p. 325.)

59-1003 (13686). *Discharge papers — Form of record books.* — Such book providing for the recording of discharges from the army, navy, or any other branch of the service, shall consist of printed forms in blank, similar to and in conformity with the wording of the forms of discharge used by the United States government, the size of type being reduced to permit the printing of the form of the discharge on one (1) page of said record, and

each book shall be provided with an alphabetical index. (Acts 1925, ch. 131, Sec. 2, P.

59-1004 (13687). *Discharge papers — Duties of recorders — No fees permitted.* — It shall be and is hereby made the duty of the recorders of the several counties of the state of Indiana, and as a part of their official duties, to record all discharges from service in any war in which the United States has been engaged, of soldiers, sailors, marines or members of any other branch of the service, without charge, and no fee shall be assessed or collected by the counties or recorders thereof for such recording. (Acts 1925, ch. 131, Sec. 3, p. 325.)

59-1005 (13688). *Withholding and destroying papers.* — It shall be unlawful for any person or persons who has or have the possession or control of, or who may hereafter become possessed of, the commission or discharge papers of any officer, soldier, sailor or marine of the United States army or navy, to withhold the same from the party named in such commission or discharge when such officer, soldier, sailor or marine shall demand possession thereof. It shall also be unlawful for any person or persons having possession of any commission or discharge as aforesaid to wilfully destroy (deface), mutilate or destroy or make away with such commission or discharge, to the prejudice of the owner thereof, or to deliver the same to any other person other than the party named therein without the written request of such officer, soldier, sailor or marine: Provided, That in case of death of the party named in such commission or discharge when the possession may be as aforesaid, the party or parties having possession shall deliver up the same on a written request of the widow or legal representatives of such soldier, sailor, officer or marine. (Acts 1889, ch. 237, Sec. 1, p. 444.)



59-1006 (13689). *Withholding and destroying papers — Penalty.* — Any person or persons who shall violate the provisions of the preceding section, or refuse to comply with the requirements thereof, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be fined not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500) and imprisoned not exceeding three (3) months, or both or either, at the discretion of the court or jury trying the cause. (Acts 1889, ch. 237, Sec. 2, p. 444.)

59-1007. *Privileges and rights of soldiers and sailors, their widows and orphans.* — The soldiers and sailors of the World War, the war with Spain, and the war in the Philippine Islands, the soldiers who were in service on the Mexican border during the years 1916 and 1917, the soldiers and sailors who are in the regular service of the United States, and who are residents of this state, together with their widows and orphans, shall have and are hereby given all of the rights and privileges now held and enjoyed by the soldiers and sailors and their widows and orphans, of the Civil War. (Acts 1935, ch. 202, Sec. 1, p. 972.)

59-1007a. *Privileges and rights of members of armed forces in World War II, their widows and orphans.* — All persons who have served, or who are now serving, or who may hereafter serve as a part of the armed forces of the United States in the present war with Germany, Italy or Japan, or any of their allies, and the wives, widows, and children of such persons, who are residents of the state of Indiana, shall have and are hereby given all of the rights and privileges now held and enjoyed by soldiers, sailors, nurses and/or other veterans, their wives, widows and children, of the first world war, under existing statutes or under any statute which may hereafter be enacted. (Acts 1943, ch. 254, Sec. 1, p. 724.)

59-1008. *Nurses of World War — Discharge — Benefits.* — Every nurse who served as such during the World War with any of the armed forces of the United States and who was honorably discharged from service, and who is a resident of the state of Indiana, shall have and is hereby given all of the benefits, rights, privileges and immunities which are

conferred by the law of the state of Indiana, upon and which are held and enjoyed by honorably discharged soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the World War, and such benefits, rights, privileges and immunities as are now by the law of the state of Indiana conferred upon any representative, heir or relative of any honorably discharged deceased soldier, sailor or marine who served in the armed forces of the United States during the World War are hereby conferred upon the like representative, heir or relative of any such deceased nurse. (Acts 1933, ch. 180, Sec. 1, p. 908.)

59-1009 (13692). *Burial of soldiers, sailors, marines, or widows.* — Whenever any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine, who may have at any time served as a regular or volunteer soldier, sailor or marine, in the army or navy of the United States, or the wife, or widow of any such soldier, sailor or marine, resident of any county of this state, other than the inmates of the Inmates of the Indiana State Soldiers' Home or the National Military Home in Grant County, or whenever any member of the armed forces engaged in World War II, resident of any county of this state, has died or shall die hereafter, upon claim filed by any interested person with the board of commissioners of the county stating the fact of such service, death and discharge, and that the body has been buried in a decent and respectable manner in a cemetery or burial ground, such board of commissioners shall investigate, hear and determine such claim like other claims, filed for allowance by them, and if, the facts averred are found to be true, such board shall consider, also, the tribute of respect due to such soldier, sailor or marine and make allowance of such claim in a sum not exceeding seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for service rendered and material furnished in care of such body and such burial: And be it further Provided, That in case of such death and burial, it is averred in such claim and proven that from actual necessity a burial place not to exceed the sum of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for the body of such soldier, sailor or marine, or the body of the wife, or widow of such soldier, sailor or marine, or for the body of any such member of the armed forces who was engaged in



World War II, was purchased in any cemetery, such board shall make further reasonable allowances in payment for such burial place, and such allowance in either or both cases shall be paid from the funds of such county, as now provided by law. (Acts 1915, ch. 3, Sec. 1, p. 12; 1917, ch. 39, Sec. 1, p. 93; 1943, ch. 55, Sec. 1, p. 138.)

59-1010 (13692.1). *Memorial Day expenses — Appropriations to organizations of veterans.* — The respective authorities of the several counties, townships, cities, and towns of the state of Indiana, may appropriate annually to one (1) post, garrison or camp of each of the following organizations: The Grand Army of the Republic, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, United Spanish War Veterans, Disabled American Veterans of the World War, the American Legion, and the Army and Navy Union of the United States of America, in the respective counties, townships, cities or towns, a sum of money not to exceed the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) to any such post, garrison or camp to aid in defraying the expenses of Memorial Day. (Acts 1927, ch. 193, Sec. 1, p. 564; 1933, ch. 20, Sec. 1, p. 88.)

59-1011 (13692.2). *Veterans, United Spanish War — Annual encampment — Appropriation.* — The sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated annually, out of any money in the general fund of the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the use and benefit of the United Spanish War Veterans of the Department of Indiana, to assist in the payment of the expenses of the annual encampment of the department. (Acts 1927, ch. 13, Sec. 1, p. 40.)

59-1012. *Veterans of Foreign Wars — Appropriation.* — The sum of five hundred dollars (\$500), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated annually, out of any money in the general fund of the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the use and benefit of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the Department of Indiana, to assist in the payment of the expenses of the annual

encampment of the department. (Acts 1931, ch. 40, Sec. 1, p. 100.)

59-1013. *Division of graves registration — Creation — Adjutant general.*—The adjutant general is hereby authorized to create a division of graves registration in the office of the adjutant general, which shall make and preserve, by counties, a permanent registry of the graves of all persons who shall have served honorably in the military or naval forces of the United States in the time of war and whose mortal remains may rest in Indiana. (Acts 1937, ch. 246, Sec. 1, p. 1170.)

59-1014. *Director — Qualifications and appointment.* — The director of the division of graves registration created by the adjutant general shall be a member of a patriotic organization and shall be appointed by the adjutant general and shall serve without compensation. (Acts 1937, ch. 246, Sec. 2, p. 1170.)

59-1015. *Burial permits — Information required.* — Hereafter no burial permit shall be issued by an officer in this state having authority to issue burial permits, until the following information is secured, if practicable so to do, and except where an immediate burial should be made to avoid the danger of contagion. Was the deceased a veteran of any of the wars in which the United States has been engaged? If so, the date when he entered the service and the date on which he was discharged; the medals and decorations won; and the division or regiment in which he was enlisted. (Acts 1937, ch. 246, Sec. 3, p. 1170.)

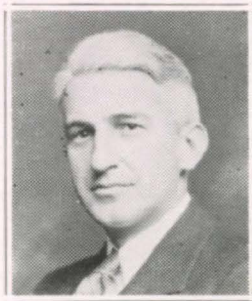
59-1016. *Annual appropriation.* — A sufficient sum of money not exceeding \$1,000 is hereby appropriated, annually, out of any money in the general fund of the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, to pay any and all expenses which may be incurred in the administration and enforcement of the provisions of this act, but the expenditure of such money shall in all cases be made under the direction of and be subject to the approval of the governor. (Acts 1937, ch. 246, Sec. 4, p. 1170.)



# History of the Buddy Poppy

Kansas City—Indisputable evidence is available to prove that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States was the first veteran organization to promote a nationally organized campaign for the annual distribution of poppies made by disabled and needy veterans.

"Ever since other organizations have taken up the sale of poppies, we have urged and worked for cooperation and harmony in spite of opposition, rebuffs, and misstatements that have been used to discredit our rights, our methods and our purposes," declares a statement issued by Adjutant General R. B. Handy, Jr., from National Headquarters here of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S.



Gen. R. B. Handy, Jr.

As chairman of the V. F. W. National Buddy Poppy Committee since February 1, 1923, Adjutant General Handy has been in personal contact with the development of this movement and is thoroughly familiar with the activities of other organizations that have sought the exclusive privilege of raising funds for the welfare of disabled and needy veterans and their dependents in this manner.

"The poppy movement got its impetus from the poem 'In Flanders Fields' written by Colonel John McCrae of the Canadian forces before the United States entered the world war. Immediately after the Armistice, the idea of selling replicas of the original Flanders' poppy took hold in some of the allied countries," is Adjutant General Handy's explanation of the birth of this movement.

"No definite organized sales of poppies on a nation-wide scale was conducted in America until 1921, when the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies ostensibly for the benefit of children in the devastated areas of France and Belgium," Handy's statement points out.

"Madam Guerin, who was recognized as 'the poppy lady from France' sought and received the cooperation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S. early in 1922, after the Franco-American Children's League was dissolved, when we conducted a poppy sale prior to Memorial Day, 1922, using only poppies that were made in France. In the 1923 poppy sale, due to the difficulty and delay in getting poppies from France, the V. F. W. made use of a surplus of French poppies that were on hand and the balance was provided by a firm of artificial flower manufacturers in New York City.

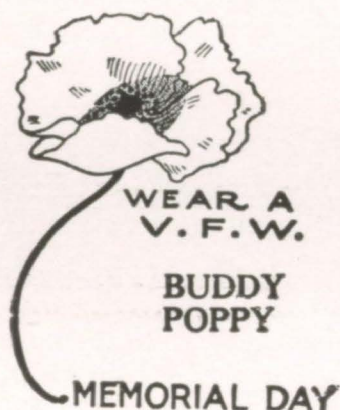
"It was during the 1923 campaign that the V. F. W. evolved the idea which resulted in the V. F. W. Buddy Poppy — fashioned by disabled and needy veterans who were paid for their work as a practical means of providing assistance for these comrades. This plan was formerly presented to the 1923 encampment of the V. F. W. at Norfolk, Virginia, for adoption. Immediately thereafter was established the V. F. W. Buddy Poppy factory in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where all V.F.W. Buddy Poppies for the 1924 sale were made by disabled veterans. General Frank T. Hines, Director of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau endorsed the plan and pledged the cooperation of his department. All men employed in the making of Buddy Poppies for the 1924 sale were sent to the V. F. W. poppy workshop by the U. S. Veterans' Bureau regional manager in Pittsburgh. The designation 'Buddy Poppy' which originated with the men themselves, was adopted at that time.

"In February, 1924, the V. F. W. registered the name 'Buddy Poppy' with the United States patent office, and a certificate was issued on May 20, 1924, granting the V. F. W. all trade-mark rights in the name of 'Buddy'



under the classification of artificial flowers. The V. F. W. has made that trade-mark a guarantee that all poppies bearing that name and the V. F. W. label are genuine products of the work of disabled and needy veterans. No other organization, firm, or individual, can make legal use of the name 'Buddy Poppy.'

"Following the 1924 sale, a number of the larger state departments of the V. F. W. believed it would stimulate local sales if the poppies they used were made by disabled veterans in hospitals within their own jurisdiction. The 1924 encampment of the V. F. W. at Atlantic City granted this privilege, under the provision that all poppies would be produced according to specifications laid down by the



National Buddy Poppy Committee, and that all poppies would be made by disabled veterans in government hospitals and by needy veterans in workshops supervised by the V. F. W.

"The National Buddy Poppy Committee has kept close check upon the making of all Buddy Poppies and has supplied all V. F. W. Buddy Poppy tags which must be used on all poppies sold by any unit of this organization. State departments securing tags from National Headquarters must make an accounting for all tags used and return all unused tags at the close of each campaign. The V. F. W. has steadfastly adhered to the policy of veteran made poppies.

"The poppy was adopted as the official

Memorial flower of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S. by the National Encampment held in Seattle, Washington, in August, 1922, following the first nation-wide distribution of poppies in May, 1922, ever conducted by any veteran organization.

"In September, 1920, the National Convention of the American Legion, held at Cleveland, passed a resolution adopting the poppy as the official flower of that organization. However, at the third national convention of the American Legion, held in Kansas City in October, 1921, the American Legion repudiated the poppy and adopted the daisy as its official flower.

"In October, 1922, following the first nation-wide sale of poppies as conducted by the V. F. W. during the month of May of that year, the fourth national convention of the American Legion, held at New Orleans, Louisiana, in October, adopted the following resolution which is taken from a printed summary of the proceedings:

" 'Resolved, that the poppy is hereby declared to be the official American Legion flower, instead of the daisy, which was adopted by the 1921 convention of the American Legion.'

"This indicates clearly that the daisy was adopted by the American Legion in 1921 and that following the successful poppy sale conducted by the V. F. W. in May, 1922, the American Legion realized the financial possibilities of the poppy movement. In the spring of 1923, following the New Orleans encampment and one year after the first poppy sale of the V. F. W. on a nation-wide scale, the American Legion conducted its first poppy sale using poppies supplied by a French manufacturer as shown in the report of the National Adjutant for the year ending October 15, 1923.

"The question of who first sponsored the idea of the poppy as a memorial flower in America will probably never be definitely determined. However, the American Legion has recognized Miss Moina Michael of Athens, Georgia, as the originator of this idea which was inspired while working under the auspices of the American Red Cross during the World



war. It was at the suggestion of Miss Michael, according to reports, that the American Legion Convention in Cleveland in 1920 adopted the poppy as its memorial flower. Contrary to these claims, however, is the fact that artificial poppies were made and sold in this country as early as 1919. The Service Star Legion unit in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, claims to have sold poppies to raise funds for the homecoming celebration of the men from Milwaukee who served in the A. E. F.

"The records are clear, however, on the subject of the first nation-wide distribution of poppies by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S. in May, 1922.

"Despite propaganda and unfounded charges directed at the annual sale of Buddy Poppies by the V. F. W. the fact remains that the poppies sold by our organization have been made by disabled veterans in government hospitals since 1924 under the direction of occupational therapy aides who are employees of the U. S. Government. From the very beginning, the Buddy Poppy movement of the V. F. W. has received the endorsement and cooperation of the director of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau and the medical officers in charge of government hospitals. Letters commending the Buddy Poppy movement of the V. F. W. from the late Presidents Warren G. Harding and Calvin Coolidge, former President Herbert Hoover and President Franklin D. Roosevelt, have conveyed to the country at large, official endorsement and recognition of V. F. W. efforts in this direction.

"In conclusion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S. have always sought harmony and cooperation with all organizations. In many places the two organizations cooperate and work in harmony and wherever this condition is possible, V. F. W. units are urged to invite the cooperation of the American Legion in a joint campaign.

"If there is any dispute as to the pre-eminence of the V. F. W. poppy as the nation's memorial flower, this verdict has already been rendered by the public at large, with its enthusiastic approval and acceptance of the V. F. W. flower year after year. The phrase 'Buddy Poppy' has become synonymous with

poppies used for memorial purposes. This attitude on the part of the American public, the evidence on record in the proceedings of past national conventions of both the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S. and the American Legion, and the consistent support and endorsement the Buddy Poppy movement has received from high government officials, completely puts to rout all innuendoes and statements circulated by unscrupulous individuals who are ignorant of the facts and inspired solely by vindictive partisanship."

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### CHURCHILL REBUFF TO U. S. REVEALED

(Herald-Examiner, now Herald-American,  
Chicago, Ill.)

New York, Oct. 23, 1938. — Winston Churchill's recent plea to America to join forces with Britain against aggression of dictatorships represents a reversal of previous Churchill statements, it was declared tonight by William Griffith, editor and publisher of the New York Sunday Enquirer.

Griffith stated that only two years ago Churchill said he thought America, instead of entering the world war, should have kept its hands out of Europe and "minded its own business."

Churchill told him during a conference in London, Griffith said, that by entering the world war America cost England and France millions of lives which would have been spared had America stayed home, because England would have made peace in the spring of 1917.

He quoted Churchill as adding that America owed Britain a war debt instead of the situation being reversed and as blaming America for laying the foundation for many future wars by sponsoring the Versailles treaty.

#### *Tells of Conference*

The New York publisher, who has conferred with any of Europe's leading statesmen



during six extended tours of Europe the last four years said:

"I was in England in the summer of 1936 and at Churchill's invitation visited him in his home. We talked for about two hours. I asked him if he did not agree with me that since America had helped England win the world war she should now pay her war debt?"

Griffith said Churchill made this sensational reply:

"I agree with you that England should at once pay every penny she owes, but England should be allowed to deduct 50 per cent of the cost of every shot and shell she fired toward Germany from the time America declared war until she actually put troops in the front lines a year later."

The American publisher said he asked how much Churchill estimated that deduction would be and was told it would amount to about four billion 950 million dollars, which with interest Mr. Churchill claimed, would exceed the amount of the British debt.

#### *Churchill Wanted More*

Griffith quoted Churchill as saying:

"In reality you owe us considerable money, because you should pay us interest on that money we expended in your behalf while you were preparing to fight and up until the war debts were completely settled."

Griffith said he expressed his astonishment at this attitude of Churchill's part in view of the fact that he considered America's entry into the world war swung the balance of the strength in favor of the allies and made possible an allied victory. He quoted the British statesman as replying:

"You didn't save us from defeat. It would have been much better if you had stayed out, although I admit I did not realize this at the time you entered the war. If you had not entered the war we would have made peace with Germany in the spring of 1917. That would have saved millions of British and French lives. There would have been no collapse in Russia followed by communism, no later collapse in Italy followed by fascism, no collapse in Germany followed by Naziism."

Griffith said Churchill then laid full responsibility for the Versailles treaty on America and added:

"If it hadn't been for that treaty all these little countries would never have been formed and the foundation would not have been laid for many future wars."

Churchill was quoted by Griffith as saying "that he could not understand America's participation in the war. If she had entered in 1915, when she had the "legitimate" reason in the Lusitania's sinking, but I can't understand America entering the war in 1917, when she had no excuse, Griffith quoted him as saying.

The New York publisher said Churchill disagreed with him again when he expressed the opinion that America had learned its lesson and would refrain from embroiling itself in any future European wars. He recalled that Churchill said:

"When the next war starts, the long arm of world events will reach around the American continent and you will find yourselves fighting shoulder to shoulder with England again."

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#### NORDEN BOMBSIGHT IMPROVED

A Gary flyer, Sgt. Elvin I. Cox, 20, stationed in England has greatly improved effectiveness of the famous U. S. Norden bombsight, according to news dispatches from a U. S. bomber base in England.

Cox noticed that incendiary bombs drop straighter to the ground than general purpose bombs, whose greater weight carry them forward in more of a curve.

He improved the Norden bombsight to allow for this differential and the improvement, dispatches say, is being used by Flying Fortresses at the base.

Cox goes on raids himself to check on the apparatus.

Assigned to duty in training of bombardiers at the base, he says, "I'd rather be a combat man than do this bombsight work."

He flew in the lead plane of bombers which destroyed the molybdenum mine and plant at Knaben, Norway, Nov. 16, flying as an aerial engineer and following directions of the navigators guiding the bomber via the automatic pilot for six and a half hours on the 1,200-mile round trip.



## RED CROSS-SOCIAL HISTORY GUIDE- A FOR SERVICEMEN IN HOSPITALS

1. *Identifying Information:* Name of patient, military identification, martial status, family composition where patient makes his home, race, nationality, and religion.

2. *Sources of Information:* List informants, their relationship to patients, length of time they knew patient, records consulted (Social Service Exchange, school, hospital, juvenile, or other court, etc.)

3. *Developmental History:* Give date and place of birth, and any unusual influencing factors. Was there a birth injury? Did he walk and talk at an unusually early or late age? Note anything unusual in development, such as feeding difficulties, stuttering, nail biting, fainting spells or convulsions, nightmares, sleep walking, bed wetting longer than usual, special fears, temper tantrums?

4. *Health and Medical History:* Was serviceman admitted to hospitals for either medical or mental condition? When? Reason? Secure details and a report from the doctor. Note any unusual use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.

5. *Family History:* What appeared to be the attitudes in the family group? How many brothers and sisters? Patients relationship to the parents? Are they divorced? Are parents foreign born? Is this a source of conflict? If either parent is dead, what age was the patient at the time of death, and how did he react to it? Were methods of child training over-severe or over-indulgent? How did patient get along with brothers and sisters? Was there an extreme attachment between patient, and any member of the family? Was there any mental illness, epilepsy or alcoholism, etc. in immediate family?

6. *Personality:* What kind of a person is the patient? Did he play alone or in groups? Was he a leader, or was he shy and always a

follower? Timid, overly modest, or a show off? Did he have a sense of duty? Calm or high strung? What were his interests and hobbies? Did he have pets? Was he cruel to animals? If so, at what age? Was he happy-go-lucky or responsible? Where there any marked changes in habits, interests, and attitudes of adolescence? Did he have girl friends, older or younger, approved or disapproved socially? Did he have strong attachments to boys? Describe any unusual interest in religion. What were his ambitions?

7. *Education:* How far did he go in school? Regularity of attendance and promotions? Reasons for leaving and age. How well did he do in his studies? Did he have any special interests or outstanding difficulties in school subjects? Were there any particular problems of behavior or adjustment to teachers and fellow students?

8. *Employment:* What kind of work has patient done? Has he worked consistently at one type of work? Did he change jobs frequently and what were the reasons for changing? What kind of a workman was he considered by employers?

9. *Present home situation:* Describe home. With whom was patient living before he entered service. If married, what does the relationship seem to be — congenial, unhappy, etc. If patient is married but divorced or separated, give date and reason. Are there any children? Give ages. Give any unusual facts about the health situation of the family. Describe how the relatives who furnished the information feel about the patient. Did they know about the patients illness? What was the attitude towards the interview? Were they glad to give the information or did they seek to hide unfavorable facts? What is their attitude toward patient's return home?

10. *Preinduction reactions:* Did the patient want to go into the military service, or didn't he? Was he selected or did he enlist? Has he written his relatives anything about his feelings since induction? What is the family's attitude re patient's service?



## Rev. George R. Streeter

Rev. George R. Streeter, the last living Civil War Veteran in Hammond, Indiana, was 95 years old February 24, 1943. He is still hale and hearty, and expects to reach the 100 mark.

Rev. George R. Streeter was born February 24, 1848, at Watertown, New York. He was the son of Livingston and Caroline Streeter of Watertown, New York. His father passed away when George was but four years of age; he died in 1852. His mother, Caroline Streeter, died in 1894.

He entered the Civil War on February 18, 1864, and was in Company E, Sixth New York Regiment, Heavy Artillery, and later was transferred to the 10th Regiment. He received an honorable discharge on August 24, 1865.

He was married to Mrs. Mary Hoyt, May 17, 1876, and to this union there were born one daughter, Ethel C., who is now Mrs. Ethel C. Holway of 224 Ogden St., Hammond, Indiana, and one son, Ralph Merrill Streeter, who at the age of 33, passed away at Terre Haute, Indiana, in 1911. His wife, Mrs. Mary Streeter, passed away in Hammond, Indiana, July 26, 1932.

He received a teacher's license in the State of New York in 1871, and a few years later, he became principal of the Hill Side Seminary in New York.

He was ordained a Methodist Minister at LaPorte, Indiana, September 16, 1877, and came to Hammond in 1889 and was pastor of the First Methodist Church from 1889 to 1893. Like all Methodist Ministers they were shifted to many different towns during their career, and he served in the following Indiana towns: Hammond, Crown Point, Kentland, Winamac, Battle Ground, Culver, Goodland and Attica.

He returned to Hammond in 1907 and has lived here ever since. He was retired from the Ministry in 1907. He held the first Memorial Day service ever held in Hammond in 1890, and returned almost every year to participate in this annual service.

He became a member of the G.A.R. William H. Calkins Post No. 502, Feb. 20, 1908, Commander in 1915, Patriotic Instructor, 1916; Adjutant, 1920; State Department Chaplain, 1936, and State Department Inspector, 1941.

The Edward H. Larsen Post reverently honors the last survivor of the Wm. H. Calkins Post — a man who has seen several wars in his long span of life and hopes that World War No. 2 will be the last of all wars.

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*The Government of the United States  
extends a cordial invitation to  
George R. Streeter  
a Veteran of the War of 1861-1865  
to attend the Commemoration of the  
Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the  
Battle of Gettysburg  
June twenty-ninth to July sixth  
nineteen hundred and thirty-eight  
at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania*

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## MIKE MAROVICCH LISTED KILLED IN ITALIAN FIGHTING

Hammond Times, February 14, 1944

Pvt. Mike Marovich, 26, "died of wounds" Feb. 2 while fighting in Italy, the war department notified his father, Lazar, of 5738 Baring avenue, Hammond, today. Marovich had been overseas for eight months. He was inducted March 10, 1943.

In a recent letter he indicated he had landed with the Allied forces at the beachhead below Rome. His next message said he had left the place.

He had been employed by the Superheater company in East Chicago before joining the army. He graduated from Columbia school and later Hammond Tech. Other survivors are a brother, Pfc. Nick; three sisters, Agnes, Donna and Mrs. Mary Okray, and two nephews, Robert Okray and Ronald Marovich.



## HOW LONG WOULD IT TAKE A PERSON TO COUNT OUR WAR DEBT?

If you were to count at the rate of one a second, which is pretty past counting when the large numbers are reached, by working twelve hours you could count 43,200 in a day. Now if you were to leave out Sundays, and take a two week vacation, which you probably would need, you could count almost thirteen million in a year. So you see if you were to begin when you just begin to talk, you would be about seventy or eight years old by the time you had counted a billion.

Conservative estimaters say the war will cost three hundred and fifty billion dollars, while some are making estimates of five hundred billion dollars. Let us take the smaller figure of three hundred and fifty billion dollars, now the larger the figures get the longer it will take to count them. I think it would be a fair estimate to allow one hundred years as an average to count a billion dollars. So it would take about three hundred and fifty years to count our war debt, basing it on a conservative estimate.

## HOW WAS OUR FLAG MADE?

The design of our flag was outlined in a congressional resolution passed on June 14, 1777, which stated "that the flag of thirteen United States be thirteen alternate stripes red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing the new constellation." After Vermont and Kentucky had been admitted to the Union, Congress made a decree in 1794 that after May 1, 1795, "the flag of the United States be fifteen stripes alternate red and white on a blue field." This made the stars and stripes again equal and it was the plan to add a new stripe for each new state admitted to the Union.

Very soon, however, it was realized that the flag would be too large if we kept on adding one stripe for each new state admitted to the Union, so on April 4, 1818, Congress passed a resolution reducing the number of stripes to thirteen once more to represent the original colonies, and to add only a star to the field when a new state was admitted to the Union.

Since that time none of the flags of the United States have more than thirteen stripes while a new star has been added for each state until we now have forty-eight stars, representing the forty-eight states.

### Foreign loans made by the United States during and after the war:

The following table gives the status in 1937 of the foreign loans made by the United States during and after the World War. The last loan made was in 1929.

Country	Pre-Armistice cash loans	Post-Armistice		Total loans	Total payments received to Nov. 1, 1937
		Cash loans	War supplies and relief supplies		
Armenia.....			\$11,959,917.49	\$11,959,917.49	
Austria.....			24,055,708.92	24,055,708.92	\$862,668.00
Belgium.....	\$171,780,000	\$177,434,467.89	29,872,732.54	379,087,200.43	52,191,273.24
Cuba.....	10,000,000			10,000,000.00	12,286,751.58
Czecho-Slovakia.....		61,974,041.10	29,905,629.93	91,879,671.03	20,134,092.26
Estonia.....			13,999,145.60	13,999,145.60	1,248,432.07
Finland.....			8,281,926.17	8,281,926.17	4,868,891.77
France.....	1,970,000,000	1,027,477,800.00	407,341,145.01	3,404,818,945.01	486,075,891.00
Great Britain.....	3,696,000,000	581,000,000.00		4,277,000,000.00	2,024,848,817.09
Greece.....		1 27,167,000.00		27,167,000.00	3,778,384.01
Hungary.....			1,685,835.61	1,685,835.61	468,466.32
Italy.....	1,031,000,000	617,034,050.90		1,648,034,050.90	100,829,880.16
Latvia.....			5,132,287.14	5,132,287.14	761,549.07
Liberia.....		26,000.00		26,000.00	36,471.56
Lithuania.....			4,981,628.03	4,981,628.03	1,237,956.58
Nicaragua.....			431,849.14	431,849.14	168,575.84
Poland.....			2 159,666,972.39	159,666,972.39	22,646,297.55
Rumania.....		25,000,000.00	12,911,152.92	37,911,152.92	4,791,007.22
Russia.....	3 187,729,750		4,871,547.37	192,601,297.37	8,750,311.88
Yugoslavia.....	10,605,000	16,175,465.56	24,978,020.99	51,758,486.55	2,588,771.69
Total.....	7,077,114,750	2,533,288,825.45	740,075,499.25	10,350,479,074.70	2,748,574,488.89

<sup>1</sup> Includes \$12,167,000 authorized under act of Feb. 14, 1929.

<sup>2</sup> Includes \$3,736,628.42 acquired by U. S. Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corp. for services rendered.

<sup>3</sup> Exclusive of \$5,000,000 conditional advance not availed of and returned.



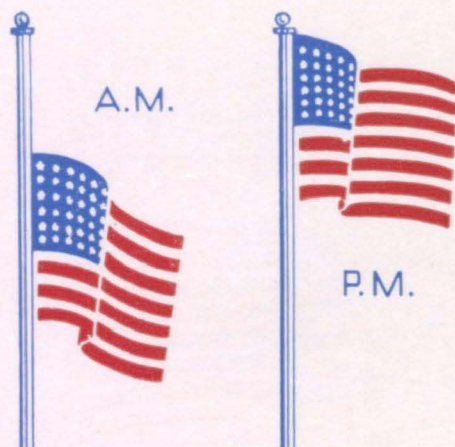
# *Our Flag*



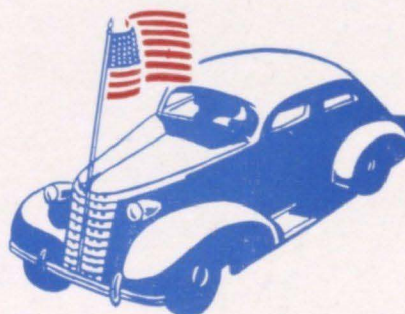
The data appearing in this booklet has been compiled with the hope that during these trying times it will inspire us to hold fast to the principles of our Democracy and intensify our respect for the Flag which is the outward symbol of our American Ideals.

JOHN W. BLUME,  
Historian.

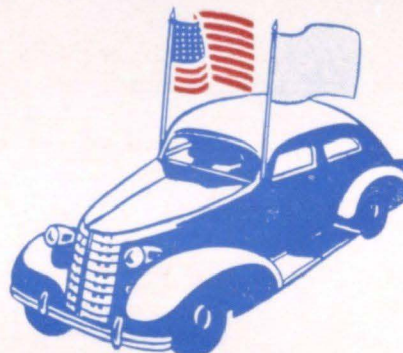




The Flag is displayed at half-staff from sunrise until noon on Memorial Day and at full-staff from noon until sunset.



The Flag may be either fastened to the body or clamped to the radiator cap when displayed on an automobile. It should never be draped over the hood, top or sides of the car.



The Flag is always displayed from a staff when used on a float in a parade. It should never be displayed in any other way.

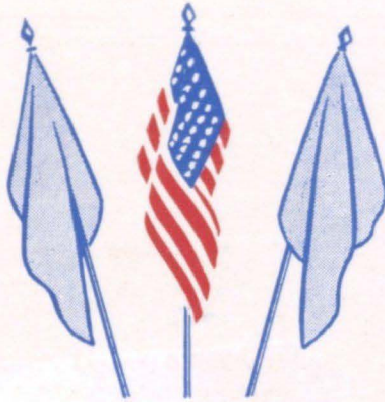


## *The Salute to The Flag*

When the Flag is passing in a parade, or when being raised or lowered, all persons present should face the Flag, stand at attention and salute. Men in uniform give the regulation military salute. Those not in uniform remove the headdress with the right hand and hold it at the left shoulder. Men without hats stand at attention. Women face the Flag and salute by placing the right hand over the heart.

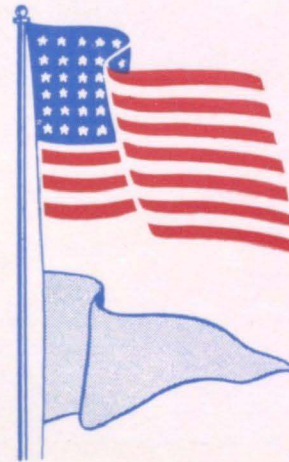






When displayed in a group with flags of States or cities, or pennants of societies, the Flag of the United States should be placed in the center of the highest point of the group.

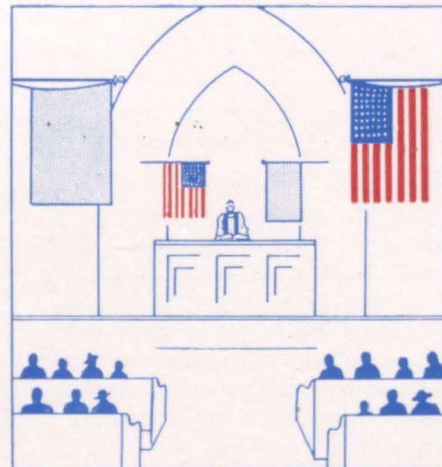
The Flag of the United States should always be at the peak when flown on the same halyard with flags of states, cities, or pennants of societies.



The Flag must not be allowed to fall to the ground when used in connection with the unveiling of a statue or monument. It should never be used to cover the statue or monument but should be carried aloft to wave out during the ceremony.



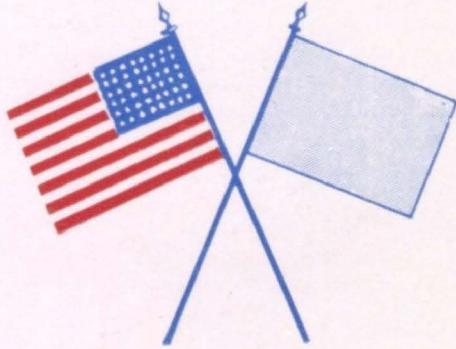
When displayed in the chancel of a church, the Flag should be at the clergyman's right as he faces the audience. Displayed outside the chancel, the Flag should be at the right of the congregation as it faces the clergyman. (This same rule applies when the flag is displayed in other buildings or halls.)





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## Flag Code Rules and Regulations

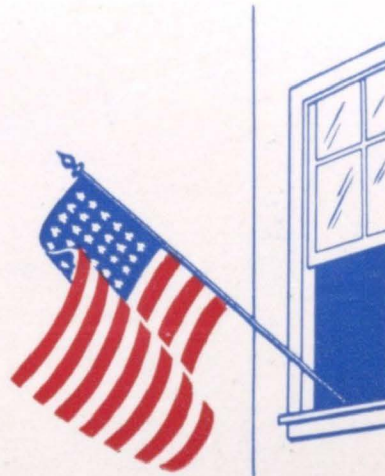
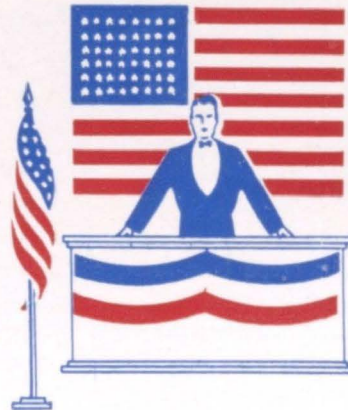


Used on a speaker's platform, the Flag may be displayed flat above and behind the speaker. Flown from a staff, it should be placed at the speaker's right and slightly in front of the speaker's table.



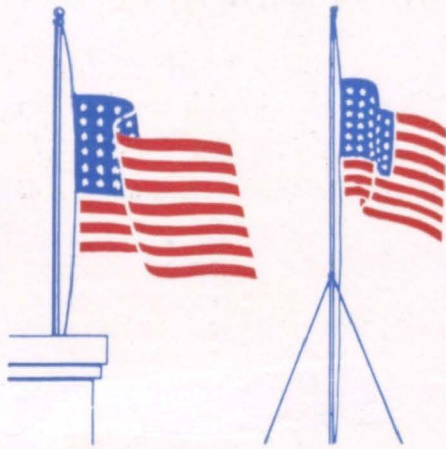
When displayed in a window or against a wall, either in a horizontal or vertical position, the blue field is uppermost and always to the observer's left.

When displayed with another flag against a wall, staffs crossed, the Flag of the United States should be on the observer's left and its staff in front of the staff of the other flag.

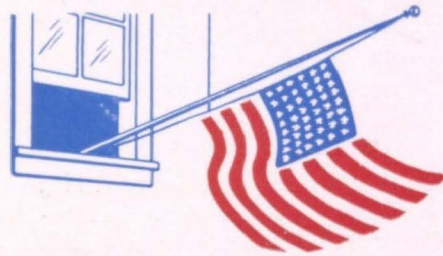


When displayed from a staff projecting out from a window, balcony or front of a building, the blue field should go clear to the peak of the staff.





When flown from a stationary staff, the Flag is placed at half-staff to indicate mourning. When flown at half-staff, it should first be raised to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position. Before being lowered, the flag should again be raised to the peak.

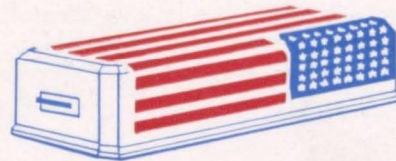


A black crepe bow-knot, either with or without streamers, is placed at the fastening points when the Flag is displayed flat to indicate mourning.



To indicate mourning when the Flag is carried in a parade, two streamers of black crepe are attached to the spearhead.

The Flag should be placed at the head and over the left shoulder of the deceased when used to cover a casket. The Flag must not be lowered into the grave, nor allowed to touch the ground.



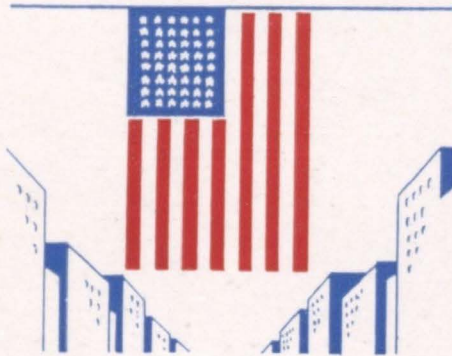


# *In Our Flag Each Star Represents a State*

*Below are shown the dates and order of admission into the Union for each of the 48 States*

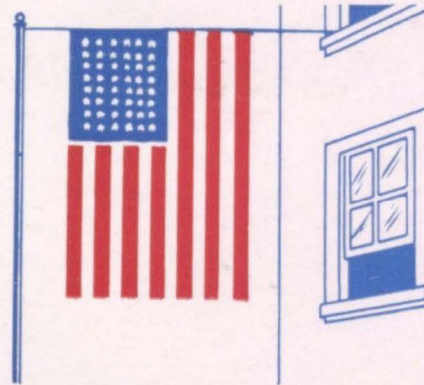






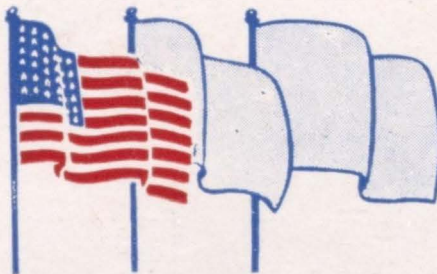
Suspended over a sidewalk on a rope from pole to building, the blue field should always be pointed out toward the pole.

When suspended from a rope or wire across the street, the Flag is always vertical, blue field to the north in an east and west street; to the east in a north and south street.



The United States Flag should always be carried on the marching right when displayed in a procession with another flag.

When used in a procession with a line of other flags, the Flag of the United States is always carried in front of the center of the line.



When flown from a staff adjacent to flag of other nations, the United States Flag is on the right of the line, thus putting it on the observer's left.



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## OCCASIONS ON WHICH THE FLAG SHOULD BE DISPLAYED

The Flag should be displayed on all National and State holidays and on other historic and special occasions. Among the dates on which it is suggested the Flag be flown are: Inauguration Day, January 20th, every fourth year; Lincoln's Birthday, February 12; Washington's Birthday, February 22; Army Day, April 6; Memorial Day, May 30; Flag Day, June 14; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, first Monday in September; Constitution Day, September 17; Columbus Day, October 12; Navy Day, October 27; Election Day, first Tuesday after first Monday in November every fourth year; Armistice Day, November 11; Thanksgiving Day.

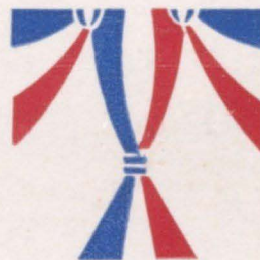
*"I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of color, a symbol of yourself, the pictured suggestion of that big thing which makes this nation. My stars and my stripes are your dream and your labors. They are bright with cheer, brilliant with courage, firm with faith, because you have made them so out of your hearts."*

FRANKLIN K. LANE.

### DO NOT USE THE FLAG FOR DRAPING

Instead Use  
RED, WHITE AND BLUE  
BUNTING

The Flag is never used for draping. The proper thing is to use red, white blue on top or to the observer's left, and blue bunting, arranged with the the white in the middle and the red below or to the observer's right.





## A Message from Charles G. Beck---Continued

*Continued from Page 365*

tion of necessary Army hospitals be accomplished on existing Veterans Administration Facility reservations, or in locations accessible to the Veterans Administration. In line with this policy, the Army is at the present time constructing a 1,500 bed Army General Hospital on the Hines Facility reservation. The construction of this Army hospital is being accomplished entirely by the Army and when completed it will be operated entirely and exclusively as an Army Hospital, for whatever period of time is necessary for the Army to accomplish its medical rehabilitation of disabled soldiers. This hospital will be completed and ready for the reception of patients about April 1, 1944.

It is presumed that, when the Army has no further need for this hospital, it will be turned over to the Veterans Administration and will then become a part of the Hines Facility. Thus the Veterans Administration will eventually

acquire an additional 1500 beds.

In addition to the Army Hospital, the Veterans Administration is planning the erection of a new hospital building of approximately 500 beds for the treatment of cancer and tumor cases just north of its present building. This construction will probably be started in 1944, and when completed will permit the moving of cancer and tumor patients from the present hospital building, thereby making an additional 500 beds available for the care of other general medical and surgical cases. This addition, together with the new Army Hospital and with the present beds at Hines, will provide for a total of approximately 3750 hospital beds, more than double the present capacity. It would, therefore, seem that veterans of World War II, as well as veterans of other wars, in the area served by the Hines Hospital will have adequate hospital beds for their proper care.





## VETERANS BENEFITS STATE OF INDIANA

64-205 (14040). Totally-disabled veterans — Deduction from taxable property — Basis of disability — Any honorably discharged soldier, sailor, marine or nurse who shall have served ninety (90) days or more in the military or naval forces of the United States, and who is totally disabled as evidenced by pension certificates or the award of compensation, and the widow of any such soldier, sailor or marine, may have the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) deducted from his or her taxable property, providing the amount of taxable property as shown by the tax duplicate shall not exceed the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000), and the amount remaining after such deduction shall have been made shall constitute the basis for assessment and taxation: Provided, further, That the age of sixty-two (62) shall constitute the basis of total disability for any pensioner. (Acts 1927, ch. 175, Sec. 1, p. 519.)

### BOBINSKY HEADS POST 802 V F W

Hammond Times April 4, 1944

Installation of newly elected officers of the of the Edw. H. Larsen Post 802 VFW will take place this month, Werner P. Meissner, retiring commander, announced today.

Paul A. Bobinsky is the new commander-elect. Others officers are:

Peter Bent, senior vice commander; Edward C. Ohschlager, junior vice commander; Everett M. Todd, quartermaster; William Krokoski, chaplain; John K. Fischer, trustee, three years; Charles A. Klaubo, trustee, two years; Thomas J. Burke, trustee, 1 year; Victor Smith, adjutant; Raymond Willison, officer of the day; Werner P. Meissner, patriotic instructor; John W. Blume, post historian and post service officer; Milton Morris, post legislative officer; Straley Thorpe, post advocate; Lee Franklin, guard; Joseph Signorelli, color bearer, senior; Paul Schafer, color bearer, junior; Andrew V. Sokoloski, bugler; Henry W. Carr, post publicity officer; Walter Klamm, post employment officer; Otto Pollman, sergeant major and William Boyd, quartermaster sergeant.

## FRED M. WALKER RITES SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW

Hammond Times April 7, 1944

Inability of the late Fred M. Walker's three sons in the navy to attend their father's funeral today occasioned a change in arrangements. Services originally announced for Monday will be held at 2 p. m. tomorrow from the First Methodist Church of Hammond. The Rev. Phillips Brooks Smith will officiate. Burial will be in Oak Hill Cemetery.

Walker, district lay leader of the church, died suddenly yesterday in his home at 12 Forstdale avenue, Calumet City. He was head of the First Methodist men's Sunday School class and served as teacher in the absence of L. L. Caldwell, regular teacher.

His sons in service are SM3/c Robert Fred, ART2/c Harold Allyn and Kenneth Richard, a baker first class. Robert is stationed in the Pacific area.

Other survivors are: His widow, Emma; two daughters, Mrs. L. W. Davidson of Chicago and Mrs. Willis Getzinger of Hammond; three sisters, Mrs. L. L. Anderson of Springfield, Illinois, Mrs. Harry Marshall of Peoria, Illinois, and Mrs. Edith Leavitt of St. Louis, Missouri; a brother, John of Rome, New York and four grandchildren. The Emmerling funeral home is in charge.

Historian's Note:-

The members of the Edward H. Larsen Post wish to extend their sympathy to the bereaved family in their hour of sorrow.

The three sons are all in the United States Navy—Robert Fred FM3/c is aboard the U. S. S. Neville somewhere in the Pacific area. Harold Allyn ART2/c Aviation Tech, aboard the U.S.S. Tulaga now in Norfolk, Virginia and Kenneth Richard BKR 1/c aboard the U.S.S. L.S.T. 48 somewhere in the Atlantic area.

This is the last article to go in this book and the presses were held up until this story was taken in. We are very sorry that we did not have time to have the pictures of the three sons in this volume.



DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY  
OF OUR DEPARTED COMRADES  
IN ELMWOOD CEMETERY

Sleep On, Brave Comrades, Rest In Peace In  
Elmwood Cemetery.

Perpetual care you will always receive there.

The tread of soft foot-steps above you.

Are made by your loved ones or Comrades of  
802.

Who came to decorate and place a Flag and  
flowers on your grave.

Or perhaps lay another comrade to rest, who  
also was brave.

With tender hands and aching hearts we take  
and leave you, without any cheers.

Some thing else we leave that look like rain  
drops, is our tears.

Sleep On, Brave Comrades, Rest In Peace In  
Elmwood Cemetery.

By Wm. Krokoski

Chaplain 802 V. F. W.

Hammond Public Library  
Hammond, Ind.



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